THE TIMES
Tomorrow

Cash...

Full report of the rate-capping debate in the Commons

... and Cary

The eternal Cary Grant, star and survivor of more than 70 films



Gasper...
Sebastian Coe tells David Millar about his fight to recover gold medal form

... carrot

The raw veg and carrot juice path to fitness with Leslie Kenton

Rough justice

Sri Lankan lawyers are unhappy about what they see as an attack on the nation's judiciary

Flooding
may force
pit to shut

Urgent talks were taking place over the Kinsley colliery in West Yorkshire which the coal board said could be flooded and lost within 48 hours because of the miners' overtime ban which prevented vital maintenance. Fourteen thousand pitmen were sent home because of the ban

Page 2

Microcomputer
Challenge

Today Computer Horizons launches the first stage of *The Times* national computer competition, with 10 BBC Micro-computers to be won

Details and entry form, Page 20

Air deal hope

Short Brothers, the government-owned aircraft company, is confident of winning a United States Air Force order worth about £150m for light freighter aircraft

Page 2



Abortion move

A committee of gynaecologists and paediatricians is expected shortly to recommend reducing from 28 to 24 weeks the legal limit for the termination of pregnancy

Page 3

Killer prawns

Thirteen Dutch people died and 100 are ill after eating prawns from Southeast Asia. Holland banned sales and West Germany banned imports

Pound rallies

Sterling rose 1.25 cents to \$1.4205 and share prices continued their record run, with the 30-share index closing at 813.7, up 5.6 points

Page 15

THE TIMES

We apologise for certain shortcomings in our financial, sport and advertising services today. These are due to an industrial dispute involving clerical members of the Society of Graphical and Allied Trades 82.

Leaders page 13
Letters: On arms talks, from Mr Tim Rathbone, MP, Ulster, from Mr J. Peel; moral issues, from the Rev Dr C. P. Thompson

Leading articles: East/West dialogue; Local government

Features pages 7-12

Rates: John Vincent castigates the rates defaulters; Roger Scruton, a victim of discrimination; Glen Baxter, the surreal thing; Spectrum: détente and the new friendly Reagan; Fashion: two pages for men

Obituary, page 14

Dr Clifford Whitworth, Mr Paul Ben Haim

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Reagan challenges Soviet Union to join peace quest

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

President Reagan departed abruptly from his customary anti-Kremlin rhetoric in a speech yesterday designed to coax the Russians back to arms control talks and placate European allies who have grown increasingly alarmed at Soviet-US tensions.

It marked a turning point in the way the United States will handle Moscow in renewed attempts to revive disarmament negotiations. It was the most important and comprehensive statement Mr Reagan has made on US-Soviet relations and comes at a time of acute difficulties between the superpowers.

But the Administration is not optimistic about a breakthrough. In particular, it does not hold out much hope for reviving the stalled intermediate-range nuclear forces (INF) talks. The most promising prospects, Washington believes, lie with the strategic arms reduction talks (start) in Geneva and, to a lesser extent, the mutual balanced force reduction talks (NBFR) in Vienna.

"Our challenge is peaceful. It will bring out the best in us. We

do not threaten the Soviet Union. Freedom poses no threat. It is the language of progress."

The speech was also directed at domestic criticism of Mr Reagan's bellicose language towards the Soviet Union. Less than a year ago, for example, he described Moscow as an evil empire ruled by liars and cheats.

The President said yesterday: "We cannot predict how the Soviet leaders will respond to our challenge. But the people of our two countries share with all mankind the dream of eliminating the risk of nuclear war. It is not an impossible dream."

The administration's olive-branch approach to arms talks will have its first test tomorrow in Stockholm when Mr George Shultz, the Secretary of State, meets Mr Andrei Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister.

• MOSCOW: Tass dismissed President Reagan's speech as propaganda and said it offered no new ideas for limiting the nuclear arms race (Reuters reports).

Reagan text, page 6

35 nations seek symbol of hope in Stockholm

From Henry Stanhope, Diplomatic Correspondent, Stockholm

Foreign Ministers of Nato, the Warsaw Pact and Europe's neutral nations were deep in private consultations here last night on the eve of what could become an historic meeting of minds.

Mr Olof Palme, Sweden's Prime Minister, said at a special luncheon that they were looking for a "symbol of hope" after the breakdown of the principal East-West arms talks before Christmas.

Speaking carefully, as befitting the leader of the host government at the 35-nation Conference on Disarmament in Europe, Mr Palme was nonetheless sharply critical of the breakdown, which he said had been quite unnecessary.

Referring particularly to the negotiations on intermediate range nuclear forces (INF), from which the Russians walked out in November in protest at the deployment of new American nuclear missiles in Western Europe, he said that it would have been "perfectly reasonable" to reach a position on non-deployment by the Americans in return for a "considerable

able cut-back" in those missiles - presumably the Soviet SS20s - already in place.

He went on to repeat his Government's threat to shoot down cruise missiles overflying Sweden; the country's territorial integrity had to be protected, he said.

Mr Palme, who later met both Mr George Shultz, the US Secretary of State, and Mr

Andrei Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister, for welcoming bilateral talks, said he did not expect all the damage to be repaired during this opening week; it was easier to stop negotiating than to start again.

But deterrence was a fragile instrument for building peace, and the emphasis should now be placed on rebuilding confidence between the powers in their ability to overcome the risks of war.

While he spoke aircraft were shuttling in and out of Stockholm's Arlanda airport, carrying delegates to the conference.

Mr Gromyko said that the two power blocks, Nato and the Warsaw Pact, would need the help of the neutral nations, including Sweden, to restore a healthier political climate between East and West.

Mr Shultz, for his part, emphasized that, valuable though the conference was likely to be in building confidence between the big powers, it could not replace other forums such as the arms talks which broke down at the end of last year.

Mr Gromyko: Help needed from neutral countries.

Ministers size up rebels

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

A 4 per cent increase in the Queen's Civil List and payments to other members of the Royal Family for 1984 were announced by the Government yesterday.

The Civil List is to go up from about £3,700,000 in 1983 to £3,850,000, in line with the Government's overall cash limits for Whitehall departments, but slightly below the expected rate of inflation, which the Treasury expects to be

| | Recommendations | Decisions for 1984 |
|---|-----------------|--------------------|
| The Queen's Civil List | 3,710,400 | 3,850,000 |
| The Queen Mother | 321,500 | 334,400 |
| The Duke of Edinburgh | 170,200 | 185,500 |
| Princess Anne | 111,700 | 116,200 |
| Prince Andrew | 20,000 | 20,000 |
| Prince Edward | 20,000 | 20,000 |
| Princess Margaret | 108,700 | 113,100 |
| Princess Alexandra, Duchess of Gloucester | 44,000 | 45,000 |
| Duke of Gloucester | 67,500 | 70,000 |
| Prince of Kent | 118,000 | 120,000 |
| Princess Alexandra | 112,700 | 131,000 |
| | 4,833,900 | 5,017,000 |
| | £4,800,400 | |
| Founded by The Queen | 316,300 | 331,000 |
| | 4,515,600 | 4,685,000 |
| | £4,482,100 | |

*Reduction made to cash limit in written Answer given by Civil Secretary in July 1983.

More tables, page 2

4% rise proposed for Civil List

By Julian Haviland, Political Editor

Ministers will by tonight have a measure of their supporters' distaste for the proposed new powers to limit rates when the Rates Bill, published just before Christmas, has its second reading in the Commons.

The best estimate last night was still that there might be between 20 and 30 rebels on the Conservative side, of whom half would abstain and half vote with the Opposition. Former Cabinet ministers will be prominent among them.

Since the opposition parties tend to vote less than their full strength, the Government's majority will be comfortable enough, but misleadingly so. Many Conservative MPs will go through the Government lobby under protest, prepared to use their votes later to force concessions at committee stage.

Mr Robin Square, MP for Hornchurch, for example, who would have to resign or be dismissed as a parliamentary private secretary if he rebelled, was last night minded to hold his fire.

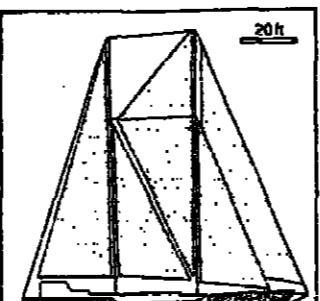
He said yesterday that he questioned both the specific and the general rate-capping powers in the Bill.

More tables, page 2

consumer goods, including Guinness, on a six-weekly service that hopes to beat the motor ships on costs as fuel prices continue to rise.

The clipper is the brain child of Mr Jeff Allen, a 34-year-old merchant navy captain and ocean-going yachtsman. She is costing £250,000 to build at Aberystwyth and Cowes, and is attracting widespread interest from third-world countries, notably in the South Pacific.

With a 100-ft steel hull and twin 100-ft masts, the ship is expected to maintain a steady speed of 8½ knots, giving a six-week round trip to islands such as Antigua, Dominica and St



How the clipper will look
Kits, and saving around £11,000 on fuel bills each round time. She will have a crew of

six or seven, but will not carry any passengers.

The Guinness Clipper - so named because Guinness booked half her initial cargo space - is no exercise in nostalgia but a serious attempt to operate commercial cargo services with the help of wind rather than oil. Mr John Stevens, a London director, said yesterday.

The ship has two 85-horsepower diesel engines but rarely expects to use them for main propulsion. They will serve mainly for ancillary services, such as cargo-handling.

Finance comes from private British and American interests,

primarily an unnamed US backer who is prepared to build more clipper as soon as this one has proved to be a commercial success.

• A "ghost" ship has crossed the North Sea with engines running and lights blazing, but nobody on board for the last 200 miles.

Unlike the *Marie Celeste*, however, the riddle surrounding the *Pergo*, a small Dutch freighter, was quickly solved. Her five-man crew abandoned ship when she got into difficulties in the North Sea's Norwegian sector. She finally ran aground on the Scottish coast near Dunbar on Sunday.

AIR-INDIA



Mr Andrew Cairncross (left) with the six boys after spending all night in the Cairngorms

BBC faces widespread blackout of TV news

By David Hewson, Arts Correspondent

The BBC was on the brink of widespread blackouts of television and current affairs last night as a number of well-known journalists became embroiled in the dispute over payments for the use of computer technology.

The list of news journalists suspended for attending union meetings grew to 65 yesterday, including the newscasters Sue Lawley, John Humphreys, and Frances Cowdery, and the reporters Martin Adeney and John Fryer.

Journalists at the Lime Grove current affairs centre, which produces *Breakfast Time*, *Sixty Minutes*, and *Newsnight*, voted by 105 to 29 to ban the use of the computers and mount a campaign of industrial action in support of the claim by the National Union of Journalists.

Journalists liable to be brought into the dispute include Nick Ross, who presents *Sixty Minutes*, Esther Rantzen, and Selina Scott, a presenter of *Breakfast Time*. The other chief presenter of *Breakfast Time* is Frank Bough, who is not a union member.

At risk: Selina Scott; out: Sue Lawley

Most newscasts have escaped blackouts so far because they have been compiled by editorial management using conventional methods. The union believes that it will be impossible for the corporation to maintain a service if the majority of journalists are not working on the computer systems already in place on *Breakfast Time*, which is due to celebrate its first anniversary today, and on *Sixty Minutes*.

The trustees noted that about 70 per cent of the Civil List is disbursed on salaries of staff in the Royal Household, the majority of which are directly linked to comparable grades in the Civil Service.

The trustees also noted that about 70 per cent of the Civil List is disbursed on salaries of staff in the Royal Household, the majority of which are directly linked to comparable grades in the Civil Service.

Doctors may back moves to cut legal limit for abortions to 24 weeks

By Nicholas Timmins, Social Services Correspondent

Gynaecologists and paediatricians, the doctors most involved in abortion and the care of new-born babies, are moving towards backing the idea of a cut in the legal limit for the termination of pregnancy from 28 to 24 weeks.

A joint subcommittee of the British Paediatric Association and the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists is expected shortly to recommend to its parent bodies that they should support such a decrease.

The move comes after marked advances in paediatricians' ability to rescue and keep alive premature babies born younger than 28 weeks since the 28-week limit was set in the Abortion Act, 1967.

A decision by the association and the college would put

pressure on the British Medical Association, the most powerful of the doctors' lobbies, to also support a 24-week limit. Its ethical committee is examining the issue.

But the association and the college are expected to reject a World Health Organization recommendation that the legal limit should be 22 weeks.

Mr Robert Atay, secretary of the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists, said: "I think everyone has accepted that 28 weeks no longer makes sense, but we would be very worried if an attempt was made to lock us into 22 weeks."

Such late abortions are usually due to the discovery of congenital abnormalities such as Down's Syndrome and sex-linked hereditary defects.

Satellite television beams into Swindon

By David Hewson, Arts Correspondent

Satellite television arrived in 10,000 homes in Swindon last night. The same programmes and advertisements were beamed to 530,000 viewers in Norway, Finland, Switzerland and an hotel in Paris.

If the programmes were familiar, some of the advertising was unusual.

The first night of Sky channel offered three popular American television series, a pop music programme, cartoon, news, and an hour of American football.

The commercial breaks, however, included promotions for Freia, a Norwegian chocolate; Sorbit, a Scandinavian chewing gum and Snickers chocolate bars known in Britain as Marathon.

The service came from the London base of Satellite Television, which is owned by News International. It is likely to be one of the free basic tier channels available on many new cable networks.

It is transmitted by satellite to the headquarters of the cable companies, who receive it by dish aerial.

Satellite Television is charging Radio Rentals Swindon network, which is owned by Thorn-EMI 10p per subscriber per month for the

sky schedule January 16

5pm Cartoon

5.05 Cable Countdown (pop)

5.50 Launch party

6.00 Fantasy Island (US series)

6.25 Saturday Angels

7.45 Vegas (US series)

8.35 Roving Report (news)

9.00 American football

10.00 Closedown

*not available in Swindon

Three more sextuplets go home

Three more of the Walton sextuplets left hospital yesterday. Hannah, Lucy and Sarah joined their sisters, Jenny and Kate, at home in Browning Road, Wallasey, Merseyside.

Only Ruth remains in Liverpool Maternity Hospital. She has a slight cold but should go home in a few days.

Graham and Janet Walton have coped largely unaided with the first two babies but now a team provided by Wirral Area Health Authority and the borough's social services department will help.

Two health service nursery nurses will be at the house every night, at an estimated cost of £8,000 for the first three months.

The social services department has appointed another four nursery nurses, two of whom will be at the house every day. A home help has also been provided, and the team is completed by a supervisory nursing officer, a health care visitor, and the family doctor.

The aid will be reviewed after about three months.

The Walton's solicitor, Mr Rex Makin, has complained to the authorities over disclosure of the nursing details. He said: "I am appalled that there has been a deliberate breach of confidentiality."

Sachs fined

Leonard Sachs, aged 74, compere of the BBC's *Good Old Days* television show, was fined £75 at Marylebone Magistrates' Court, London, yesterday for importuning men for an immoral purpose in Notting Hill Gate Station public lavatories.

MP in hospital

Mr Michael McNair-Wilson, aged 53, Conservative MP for Newbury, was admitted to the Royal Berkshire hospital on Sunday, reportedly suffering from kidney problems. His condition was described as satisfactory yesterday.

Bridge attack

Thieves stole seven 48-long aluminium parapet supports from a bridge on the A329 road crossing a railway line at Bracknell, Berkshire, in the latest such attack in the area recently. The damage was repaired yesterday.

Flight approval

The Civil Aviation Authority said yesterday it had granted a licence to Dan Air for a service between Gatwick airport and Aldergrove, Belfast, after British Midland Airways' decision to stop flying the route.

Union leader

Mr Lillian Hopkins, a Swansea clothing factory worker, was elected chairman of the National Union of Tailors and Garment Workers yesterday. She is the third woman to hold the post.

Alarm-raisers

Westwood Enterprises, makers of burglar alarms, were broken into yesterday and four alarms were stolen. The company, based in Kingsbridge, Devon, said it would fit an alarm today.

School computer offer

By Lucy Hodges, Education Correspondent

Competition for the school computer market intensified yesterday with the announcement by one of the world's largest computer companies, Commodore, that it would offer its equipment at a big discount to education institutions.

Commodore is an American company and, as such, was excluded from the Department of Industry's schemes to get microcomputers into schools by paying half the cost. Under

those schemes, primary and secondary schools had to buy British, either the Sinclair Spectrum, the BBC or research machines.

Commodore is fighting back by offering its Commodore 64 computer, together with a disk drive, LOGO (the computer language) and Simons BASIC 1 (a programming aid) to schools for £299.99 until the end of April. The normal price would be £472.

Duke calls for more coats of arms

mark the 500th anniversary of the granting of the royal charter to the College of Arms by Richard III.

The Post Office is marking the occasion by issuing Britain's first square-shaped special issue stamp today.

The duke said: "Despite the recession there is such an interest in heraldry and history that people generally are applying for arms not just new peers, but ordinary people." He invited more people to apply.

The cost of a grant of heraldic bearings is £240.

There are two ways to qualify.



Beverage report: Mr Simon Bowes tasting tea in London yesterday (Photograph: Bill Warhurst)

Calm after tea price storm

By Michael Hornsby

For the first time in months excitement was dissipated at the London tea auctions yesterday, where Indian export crews have sent prices through the roof, by the calamitous prospect of a cup of the traditional beverage at a stable charge.

The average price of the 1,500,000 kilos sold remained stable from last week at about £3.20 a kilogram, establishing a plateau in tea prices which started to rise last April when a kilogram cost £1.35.

Amid signs of a deepening struggle between instant coffee and tea, the cost of tea in the supermarkets has risen from 28p per standard pack to about 38p and will rise again to about 42p next month.

However, spitting a mouthful of Ceylon tea into the tasters' brass spittoon at the headquarters of the Tea Brokers' Association, its chairman, Mr George Neale pronounced welcome news for housewives

down prices in India. But long before that, auction prices were rising due to international consumption outrunning production.

The shortfall has been made up by supplies from countries like Kenya, Tanzania, Rwanda, Malawi and Zimbabwe, from which representatives of tea giants like Brooke Bond (30 per cent of the market), Lyons-Tetley (20 per cent), the Co-op (14 per cent), Typhoo (14 per cent) and Twinings (2 per cent) were bidding in a steadier market than they have known for some time yesterday.

The immediate cause of the spectacular increase in prices was the announcement on Christmas Eve of the Indian Government's decision to suspend the export of CTC grade tea (cut, torn and curled), which accounts for nearly 10 per cent of the 180 million kilograms imported by the United Kingdom each year, in order to hold

down prices in India. But long before that, auction prices were rising due to international consumption outrunning production.

A model by-law, drawn up by the Ministry of Agriculture, was circulated yesterday to local authorities, farming organizations and other interested organizations.

Organizations have four weeks to comment before the by-law goes to the Home Office which will be responsible for getting it through Parliament before the start of this year's cereals harvest.

The by-law would restrict straw burning to the hours of daylight on weekdays only.

Burning at weekends and on bank holidays would be banned.

Farmers would be restricted to burning only 25 acres of straw at any one time, and each fire must be at least 150 metres from the next. A five-metre firebreak must also be created before burning takes place, and fire-fighting equipment must be ready for use.

Straw-burning by-law adopts farmers' idea

The by-law also insists that two responsible people oversee the burning rather than one as now required, and that at least one hour's notice is given to the fire brigade.

Burning will also be banned within 25 metres of hedges, woods and private housing to try to prevent the damage caused last year when fires spread out of control and miles of hedgerows were destroyed.

Another main cause of complaints arising from last year's straw burning was smut blowing into houses. The by-law will insist that all soot and ash is ploughed into the soil within 36 hours, and that the burning does not take place if winds are likely to create problems.

The by-law is likely to be accepted because many of the proposals have been suggested by farmers. Breach of the by-law will lead to fines of up to £1,000 although there are no provisions to ban persistent offenders as some organizations had requested.

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PERSONAL COMPUTERS

Because we at NEC make most of the components for our computers, this naturally gives us a price/performance edge over comparable systems.

Which other company could offer a 64K Byte CP/M system like the PC8000, with dual 5 1/4" disc drives and monochrome monitor, opening the door to a wide range of business software - including integrated accounting word processing, business planning and graphics - for just £1,195?

Whatever the size of your business, there's an NEC personal computer to give you the best price/performance in its class. Up to 20 megabytes on the APC. Or briefcase portability with the amazing PC8200.

See us at the Which Computer? Show. Stand 2303, Hall 30.

Advanced Personal Computer £1,985

PC-8800 Series Personal Computer £1,455*

PC-8000 Series Personal Computer £1,195*

PC-8200 Series Portable Personal Computer £475*

PC-800 Series Personal Computer £295*

PC-700 Series Personal Computer £195*

PC-600 Series Personal Computer £145*

PC-500 Series Personal Computer £105*

PC-400 Series Personal Computer £75*

PC-300 Series Personal Computer £55*

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PARLIAMENT January 16 1984

No 'political twist' to talks with judge

TRADE UNION LAW

A report of remarks on industrial law by Sir John Donaldson, now Master of the Rolls, has been disclosed with Mr Michael Quinlan, Permanent Secretary at the Department of the Environment, in 1982, was never shown to a minister, so there was "no political twist" to it, Sir Michael Havers, the Attorney General, said during Commons questions.

The Attorney General had been closely questioned about the Master of the Rolls having discussions on what one Labour MP called "politically sensitive matters" with a senior Civil Servant.

Mr David Winick (Walsall, North, Lab) said in an exchange about the appointment of judges, that if the majority of judges came from a background associated with the Labour Government, their viewpoint would be greatly disquiet on the Conservative benches. We are concerned about the present position.

Will it be practice for senior civil servants to consult senior judges over controversial legislation such as industrial relations as occurred recently? It is all the more necessary for judges to have a wider background.

Sir Michael Havers: If we look at appointments since the war, they come from all sides of the political spectrum. Labour's members are appointed by Conservative Lord Chancellors and vice versa. It is necessary to have those who are best qualified in all ways to perform this important task.

Mr John Morris, the Opposition spokesman on legal affairs: The heart of the matter for the long term future is the need to widen recruitment to the profession. Will he consult with the Secretary of State for Education to see how the present system of discretionary grants is working, whether it might be extended and improved so that people of all parties and classes of

limited and of no means, can come to the profession?

Sir Michael Havers: On university grants, those intending to read law are treated exactly the same as others who intend to obtain their degrees at universities.

But if we might look again at grants for local authorities for those who have been doing a short period of post-school educational work and then intend to take up the law. There have been cases in my constituency where the applicant has, perhaps, been unfairly treated.

Mr Eric Deakin (Walthamstow, Lab) asked in what circumstances the Lord Chancellor issued guidance to the judiciary.

Sir Michael Havers: The Lord Chancellor never issues guidance as to how any individual case should be decided. In view, however, of his responsibilities as head of the administration of justice, it may fall to the Lord Chancellor, in consultation with the senior judiciary, and often at their request, to give general advice and guidance in connection with those responsibilities.

Mr Deakin: It is wrong that the Master of the Rolls should have had discussions on politically sensitive matters with a senior civil servant in 1982, apparently without the knowledge of the Lord Chancellor, who has since had to remind judges that they should keep him informed of these matters.

Does he not approve of this practice which breaches the long standing rule about separation of judiciary and executive? Did he know of the particular meetings as the Lord Chancellor did not?

Sir Michael Havers: It is right to give the facts. In 1975 the present Master of the Rolls addressed the annual meeting of the Industrial Law Society. It was interesting, and in a sense quite provocative, if it was reported in the *Industrial Law Journal* for 1975.

In 1982 Mr Michael Quinlan (Permanent Secretary, Department of Employment) saw him to discuss

that address and those views expressed by somebody of great experience in that field.

That report – in fact I am not sure if this has been disclosed before – was never shown to a minister. It was used by that particular civil servant for his own use. There was no political twist to it because it was not shown to a minister.

Other judges are consulted in confidence about matters over which they have a particular expertise.

The Lord Chancellor has said that in future it would be wise for judges, if they are to be asked their views in confidence, to consult him first, and he invited his first, and his colleagues to do the same.

Mr John Morris: It was difficult to understand how a senior civil servant should have something for his own use but, will he invite the Lord Chancellor to underline the importance of the judiciary not only being independent of the executive, but being seen to be independent?

The Lord Chancellor should ensure that future correspondence between the executive and the judiciary is made public and any meetings appearing to it.

Where there are particular circumstances such as individual cases where it might be disadvantageous to publish the details, the fact that correspondence has taken place should be made public.

Would not this help to guard against any suggestion of the judiciary being involved in politics in any way?

Sir Michael Havers: There must be many occasions in which those concerned, such as the Lord Chancellor and the Home Office, about the creation of new offences, would want to consult the judiciary over what they believe is the appropriate penalty, or whether an existing offence needs to remain on the statute book.

It is important that in those sort of cases, it is expected that there should be full publication of what is necessarily a confidential discussion and exchange of correspondence.

In search of greater competition

By coupling the encouragement of efficiency and enterprise with full and effective safeguards the Telecommunications Bill sought and obtained the best of both worlds. Lord Cockfield, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, said when moving the Bill's second reading in the House of Lords:

Its two main objectives, he said, were greatly to improve competition for the universal benefit and to privatise British Telecom, the latter being a necessary step in achieving the former.

The Bill, which abolishes BT's exclusive privilege with respect to telecommunications, was directed at removing those obstacles which still stood in the way of the development of a fully competitive telecommunications industry.

There could not be full and fair competition unless ground rules were established for the same for all of those who were competing. The ground rules could not be the same while BT remained a nationalized industry享受 special privileges and its competitors were private sector companies. The Bill, therefore, aimed to put BT on an equal footing with its competitors.

In general, nationalization had not served the nation well in terms of the efficient use of capital resources, efficiency, good labour relations or good service to the consumer. On all these counts, the private sector had a better record than the public sector.

The Government was determined to move on with returning state industries to the private sector and there was no more important candidate than BT, nor one where the prospects for progress and development under private sector ownership and management were brighter.

Select committees this week

Commons: Today: House of Commons (Services): Computer sub-committee. Subject: Information Technology: Members' Anthony Peart (4); Mr Peter Pennington (44); Tomorrow: Social Services.

Lessons: Today: EEC subcommittee on agriculture and the environment. Evidence from NFU and Country Landowners Association on improving efficiency of agricultural structures (10.45).

EEC subcommittee (Law). Evidence from CBI and from Law Society and the Bar. Law Society of Scotland and the Faculty of

Rural services and call boxes, 999 services and essential shipping services would be subject to more effective safeguards in future as this was the first time these services had been specified by statute. There was, therefore, no basis for the fears expressed on this subject.

The Bill represented a very significant step forward in improving the efficiency of the British economy and enabling Britain to take full advantage of the opportunities presented by the development of new technology in telecommunications and information processing.

It gave full and effective protection to the consumer, entrenching it in statute for the first time, and took full account of social needs, particularly of the disabled and those in rural areas.

Lord Bruce of Donington (Lab), for the Opposition, said those who tried to get the best of both worlds often got the worst of both.

In order to reassure the City that nothing would stand in the way of profits sufficient for attractive dividends to be paid, the Government would either have to write off all or part of BT's debt to it, or eliminate or substantially reduce the

costs of its trading.

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Statement on contract sought

Mr Dennis Skinner (Bolsover, Lab) asked the Speaker at the end of question time whether the Prime Minister's office has sought permission for a statement to be made to the Chamber about the contract in which the Prime Minister and his son Mark had been involved in lobbying.

He added that that would give MPs an opportunity to question Mrs Thatcher.

The Speaker (Mr Bernard Weatherill) said that it was not a matter connected with question time.

Whitehall brief

The unlearnt Falklands lessons

By Peter Hennessy

that remains is: Has cabinet government been restored?

The biggest gap we had was trying to get the Falklands put before some kind of Cabinet committee. The whole thing went undiscussed throughout 1982, though people had been trying to discuss it since they came back from their holidays in 1981.

The Franks committee was precise at that point. From January 1982 to March 25 1982, eight days before Argentina invaded the islands, government policy on the Falklands was not discussed formally outside the Foreign Office, despite clear indications from January 1982 that Argentine patience was running out and the belief in Whitehall that 1982 could see a progressive stepping up of Argentine measures, possibly culminating in an invasion.

There were some in Whitehall who believed that Franks had so exposed the inaccuracy of the intelligence

Appalling driving on M1

Some of the driving on the M6 and M1 motorways on Sunday had been appalling, considering the conditions.

Mrs Lynda Chalker, Minister of State for Transport, said during Commons questions, when she made a point for more care by drivers.

Mr Dale Campbell-Savours (Worthing, Lab) had asked: Is she satisfied with the speed of motorway busses which during this period of bad weather have been exceeding the lawful limit? Would she issue instructions to chief constables to be firmer in the action they take against them?

The ROF trading fund, set up in 1974, had been the first under the appropriate Act, and had operated

Darford tunnel tolls to stay

Mrs Lynda Chalker, Minister of State for Transport, said during Commons questions that she could not give an assurance that the Darford Tunnels would be made toll-free.

While many people have said that they would like the tunnels to be toll-free (she went on) there is no doubt that that has to be paid for. The Government is spending an additional £15m to free up the system through the tunnel by the provision of new approach roads and toll passes.

Remands on firearms charges

A family of four and an arms dealer, alleged to have been involved in firearms theft from a royal ordnance factory, were remanded in police custody until Thursday by magistrates at Sandbach, Cheshire yesterday.

Mr Wesley Harris, aged 57, an engineer at the Royal Ordnance Factory, Alsager, Cheshire, is accused of stealing a rocket launcher, 540 rounds of ammunition valued at £50 and two hundredweight of brass cartridges valued at £100.

Mr Paul Harris, aged 26, who also works at the factory, is accused of stealing the ammunition and dishonestly disposing of the stolen cartridges.

Mrs Eva Harris, aged 45, and Miss Sylvia Harris, aged 18, a student, and accused of having dishonestly disposed of the cartridges. The family lives at Heath End Road, Alsager.

Anthony Arthur Chapman, aged 38, a firearms dealer of Founds Square, Norton Green, Stoke-on-Trent, is accused of dishonestly receiving a stolen rocket launcher.

Commentary

Rail line to Cambridge is to be electrified

TRANSPORT

Approved of the British Rail proposal to electrify 24 miles of line from St Neots to Cambridge at a cost of about £10m was announced by Commons by Mr David Mitchell, Under Secretary of State for Transport.

He said it would lead to improved commuter services to Liverpool Street. But he added: the department had concluded that the proposal to provide a second electrified service to Cambridge via Royston would not be justified financially.

Mr Mitchell also announced that the Government had this day written to the chairman of British Rail giving approval to the board's proposal to build 150 new lightweight diesel multiple units.

Mr John Cartwright (Woodford, SDP), in a question on commutes services, said: It is planned to peak services in the South East by a third and to Woodford by a quarter. He said: "On these proposals since South East London has no major rail links, and my constituency road links with the centre of London how are such major cuts justified?"

There may not have been any doubt about their intentions, but there certainly was about their capacity. Public expenditure went up, but as a proportion of GDP and absolutely in real terms.

But because lower public expenditure had been given such a central place in Thatcherite philosophy the increase was widely assumed to be a temporary aberration.

It could be explained partly by the recession and partly by the time that was needed to make far-reaching changes in government programmes.

So, when last summer's Conservative manifesto referred simply to maintaining firm control of public spending it was thought to be disingenuous. Behind the bland request for a doctor's mandate, it was assumed, more radical plans were being prepared.

That belief was strengthened by the appointment of Mr Nigel Lawson as Chancellor and by his early radical comments on public spending.

Rhetoric does not match action

Now, it was thought, with a renewed mandate and a large majority, the true spirit of Thatcherism would emerge in deeds as well as words. But the public expenditure review that was completed last autumn, without the Cabinet rows on the subject that had disgraced so much of the work of the first Thatcher administration, merely brought spending plans back into line with previously-published forecasts.

The technical merits of the proposed design was not a matter for the railways. They were following up by marketing a design for medium-weight diesel multiple units.

Financial risks over tunnel ruled out

Taxpayers' money or guarantees will not be available for commercial risks. The rail link would emerge in debts as well as words. But the public expenditure review that was completed last autumn, without the Cabinet rows on the subject that had disgraced so much of the work of the first Thatcher administration, merely brought spending plans back into line with previously-published forecasts.

It was an exercise in good husbandry, not a new departure in policy. Once again rhetoric and action failed to match.

Mrs Thatcher has now brought them together by acknowledging that she does not believe it is possible to cut public spending below the published targets. That would mean that British Rail Engineering Limited would have to tender effectively if they wished to contract. Wherever the order went, there would be business for British industry.

The technical merits of the proposed design was not a matter for the railways. They were following up by marketing a design for medium-weight diesel multiple units.

Concern had been expressed about compensation for redundancy after vesting day and the Government had to ensure that pensioners would be treated fairly in the new organization.

The Royal Ordnance Factories had consistently returned a trading profit since their trading fund was established in 1974, but under the Government's new proposals for their management as an independent commercial organization they would do even better, Mr Geoffrey Pattle, Minister of State for Defence Procurement, said.

Mr Pattle, who was moving the second reading of the Ordnance Factories and Military Services Bill in the Commons said that it would enable the factories to become a commercial organization under the new Companies Act.

The factories were a large, closely integrated engineering and chemical production organization consisting of 12 factories, each with a vested interest in seeing that the ROFs were vigorous and successful.

Civil servants employed in the ROFs on vesting day would transfer to the new organization on broadly the same terms and conditions as at present with no change in take-home pay, leave entitlements or retirement policy. Trade union rights would be transferred unchanged.

Concern had been expressed about compensation for redundancy after vesting day and thereafter the companies will be trading on a commercial basis. Only then can we realistically look forward to the means by which privatization is to be carried out.

Several factors will influence our thinking on this.

By vesting day we shall have an appropriate company structure and a professional management anxious to make the most of their opportunities. We expect the new pension scheme to be successful, and we see no reason why privatization should be very long delayed. But we are not going to set a firm date now.

Meanwhile, all options including reference to shipping services remain open.

Mr Edward Taylor (Southend East, C) said: As there is no shortage of efficient and reasonably-priced means of cross-Channel communication, could he give an update on what he will not agree to taxpayers' demands being given to their benefit?

Mr Taylor said: I do not believe it is possible to give an assurance that he will not be involved in talks which might lead to this white elephant being financed from so-called Euro funds as part of a package designed to increase British resources to the EEC.

Mr Ridley: I do not know what proposals will be before us, but we will depend on how far and how fast the economy expands.

To many, especially among his supporters, this will seem a capitulation, a denial of the mission with which she came to office. She even told Mr Walden that she was happy to be compared with Mr Harold Macmillan, who has come to be regarded in the more zealous Conservative circles as an arch-triumvir.

There is no doubt that her critics have a point. The 1983 version is just not the same as the 1979 version of Thatcherism. But when anybody continues to miss a target by large margins, with unfailing regularity, it is wise either to change gears or to shift the target.

Mrs Thatcher has decided to bring the target within her range. For a government to set itself realistic goals must be sensible. Time and again during her first administration, Mrs Thatcher tried to force more stringent economies upon her Cabinet colleagues than they were prepared to accept.

The result was not to bring down spending, but to cause Cabinet rows, while expenditure continued to go up.

Some of the quarrels were inevitable because it is bound to be a painful business to hold spending in check during a recession. But some of the bitterness arose because ministers felt that an attempt was being made to inflict an additional measure of pain for the sake of ideology.

Green moderates outvote radicals to ally with SPD in Hesse

From Michael Binyon
Bonn

In an important decision that is certain to influence the future of the radical Greens movement, the Greens in Hesse voted over the weekend for long-term cooperation with the local Social Democratic Party (SPD), which can command a majority in the Land Parliament, and thus form a government, only with their support. The agreement is a victory for the pragmatists among the Greens, those who see cooperation as a way of exerting real political influence. It represents a defeat for the radical ecologists, who rule out any alliances or compromises with established parties.

As soon as the agreement was announced one of the seven Green members of the Hesse Parliament announced his resignation. The Social Democrats, under the leadership of Herr Holger Börner, now have to decide whether to accept this offer.

The Greens' decision comes at a time of splits and tensions in the party, following the extraordinary attack on his colleagues by a leading member of the Greens in the Bundestag. Herr Gert Bastian, a former Bundeswehr general, has threatened to leave the parliamentary faction because of what he called the dishonesty, intrigues and power struggles now prevalent in the party. He accused his colleagues of developing a "class struggle and cadre mentality", and criticized the party's one-sidedness in condemning American arms policies.

He said the parliamentary party's work was hampered by



Herr Bastian during his Army days

Ex-Nato general refuses to meet witnesses

From Our Own Correspondent, Bonn

General Gunter Kiesling yesterday refused to meet four witnesses produced by the Ministry of Defence who were ready to attest that he had been a frequent visitor to two homosexual bars in Cologne.

Herr Konrad Roderer, the general's lawyer, said his client had refused to go ahead with the confrontation, in the presence of an independent witness, to which he had earlier consented, because he did not know the identities of the people who were to be produced.

Meanwhile, General Kiesling took out a suit in Bonn yesterday against persons unknown for falsification and slander.

Prisoners of conscience



Turkey: Mahmut Dikerdem

By Caroline Moorehead

A former ambassador and president of the Turkish Peace Association, who celebrates his 65th birthday this month, was sentenced in November to eight years' hard labour and 32 months' internal exile. Mahmut Dikerdem, who is accused of engaging in pro-Soviet Communist propaganda and inciting workers to strike, has been diagnosed as having cancer. In recent weeks he has been moved from Merris military prison to Cerrahpasa hospital.

Mr Dikerdem began a distinguished career as a diplomat in 1941.

In 1976, during the office of the first Nationalist Front coalition government with the participation of Colonel Turkes (better remembered as leader of the neo-fascist Nationalist Action Party) Mr Dikerdem asked for early retirement and became a regular contributor to newspapers and magazines.

Seventeen months after the military coup of 1980 Mr Dikerdem, a founder member of the Turkish Peace Association of 1977, was arrested. The indictment, read at his trial in November, consisted almost entirely of charges of involvement in the association, which has been labelled by his accusers as left-wing, subversive and favouring Soviet propaganda.

She intends to seek treatment for an infection which has troubled her since 1978 and made her deaf in one ear. She also plans to bring herself up to date with political developments since she was first detained in July 1977, the date of the military coup that brought General Zia to power and resulted in the execution of her father, Zulfikar Ali Bhutto.

Still puzzled by General Zia's reasons for suddenly releasing her, she is composed and displays a surprising degree of political skill under questioning, though she is only 30 years old.

Astiz is silent on torture claims

From Trevor Fishlock
Buenos Aires

A young man photographed sunbathing on a beach in Argentina is the notorious Captain Alfredo Astiz, named in connexion with the kidnapping, torture and murder of two French nuns and a Swedish girl in the years of military repression.

Captain Astiz, who is 33, was briefly a prisoner of war in Britain after he and his men surrendered South Georgia to the British in the Falklands war. He was photographed signing the surrender on board a British warship in May 1982.

While he was a prisoner of war the Swedish and French authorities wanted to question him about the women's disappearance. But his prisoner status protected him from extradition.

During the "dirty war" of the late 1970s - the campaign against left-wing subversives which deteriorated into a round-up of thousands of innocent men and women - Captain Astiz worked in a task force at the Navy Mechanical School in Buenos Aires.

This was one of the detention centres into which many people were taken, never to be seen alive again.

Captain Astiz is suspected by the Swedish Government and by a human rights group of having been involved in the kidnapping, torture and killing of Dagmar Hagelin, aged 17. He is also suspected of involvement in the abduction, torture and murder of the nuns, Renée Duquet and Alice Domon.

He refuses to give an interview. "I cannot say anything because I am still serving in the Navy," was all he would tell the magazine *Gente*. But Rear Admiral Horacio Zarategui, who was jailed after criticizing the Falklands war, gave his views on Captain Astiz in the magazine.

He said there were many Captain Astizes, young officers who carried out orders in the undercover war against terrorists. "To judge his responsibility of those who ordered him to act in that way. We should start at the top, not at the bottom."

The admiral says he did not hear about torture being carried out by the forces until 1979. Until then the torturers he had heard about were the subversives. The conditions of a campaign could change people's values and could make them lose control.

The consequences of the "dirty war", he said, should have been foreseen, but "no one thought these things would happen."

The new military regime of Major-General Mohammed Bahari, whose seizure of power on December 31 was widely welcomed in Nigeria, faces some desperate problems. In the first of a series of articles, Kenneth Mackenzie discusses the grim economic scene. Future reports will deal with the divided views of the soldiers themselves and with the longer-term political outlook.

Some Nigerians think that by ending corruption General Bahari can solve the country's economic problems. Others dream that Nigeria can be made rich again by forcing the crooked former politicians to bring back the millions they stashed away in overseas accounts.

These are dangerous illusions. Mr Micawber would have recognized the basic problem. In round dollar terms, Nigeria earns overseas \$10.5 bn a year (\$7.5 bn) almost all from oil. It spent overseas last year more than \$14 bn. Result: a gap between income and spending was more than \$7 bn the year before.

The misery is in the short-term debts. In the middle of last year Nigeria sought to reschedule \$1.9 bn owed to overseas banks in arrears on confirmed letters of credit. It obtained a moratorium until this month and is now paying the debt off at \$66m a month.

Mr Micawber would have waited for something to turn up. The Nigerians have been actively seeking help from the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the World Bank, a consortium of international banks and Britain's Export Credit Guarantee Department, among others.

All help ultimately depends on a deal being struck with the IMF, and the IMF is said to be insisting on its usual "conditionalities": namely devaluation of the overpriced naira, and the phasing out of subsidies and price controls.

These measures will cause immediate price rises. Nigerians feel strongly about devaluation, regarding it as a sort of disgrace. General Bahari, who must have his IMF loan, thus faces some difficult decisions.

Looking further into the future, General Bahari must find ways to increase his overseas income - by persuading the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (Opec) to increase Nigeria's quota of 1.5m barrels of oil a day (or perhaps by leaving Opec, though he has said he will not)

Peering further into the future, oil will eventually run out - perhaps in 20 years, and the population is growing at 3.5 per cent, so it will have doubled in 20 years. Perhaps something will have turned up by then.

Tomorrow: The soldiers



Smiling through: General Bahari (left) with Colonel Roscoe Swann, the US military attaché, after an armed forces remembrance day ceremony in Lagos on Sunday

Nigeria after the coup

Debts and dangerous illusions

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Tomorrow: The soldiers

Tamil hunger strike

Hysteria grows as students starve

From Michael Hanlyn, Jaffna

Under a palm-thatch canopy, seven undergraduates are lying on a platform made of trestle tables while a softly murmuring audience watches them begin to die of hunger.

The seven Tamil students are displayed on the terrace of a small temple dedicated to Lord Shiva. The series of buildings looks more like the secondary school it once was than the principal seat of learning in the Tamil area of Sri Lanka.

A crowd mills constantly in and out of the campus. The health and likely state of the hunger strikers is a never-ending topic of conversation in the town. Last week, when there was a rumour that one of the fasting girls had died, panic swept the police station, and a thrill of excitement rippled through the streets.

Two Catholic priests in white soutane and black cassock pause to offer some words of encouragement to the strikers. When asked if they believe in encouraging public suicides they say that hunger striking is not necessarily suicide, and that to die in a just cause is praiseworthy.

The students, now in the ninth day of their fast, are demanding transfer to northern or eastern universities for 1,800 young people at present enrolled at the universities of Moratuwa, Colombo or Kandy. They fled to the north to escape the killing and burning of Tamils last July, and are afraid to return, they say.

The student leaders point out that anti-Tamil activity in the universities predates the July events. In May the Tamils fled from Peradeniya University, outside Kandy, after a campus riot. In July a lecturer from Moratuwa was killed.

"He was injured on the campus and taken to hospital," said a student spokesman, "but he was chopped to death in his hospital bed."

The university Vice-Chancellor, the government agent in Jaffna and the Education Secretary are all trying to put a package of proposals together that will satisfy the displaced students.

If one of the students should die the reaction could be of seismic proportion. An outburst of anger by the Tamils could jeopardize the carefully-constructed talks which continue to solve the ethnic tensions.

Danish anti-tax crusader re-elected from jail

From Christopher Follett, Copenhagen

Mr Mogens Glistrup, Denmark's controversial anti-tax campaigner, resumed his parliamentary career yesterday after a final recount of votes confirmed his re-election as the MP for north Copenhagen in last week's Danish general elections.

Mr Glistrup, who has served only four and a half months of a three-and-a-half-year sentence for gross tax fraud, was put in solitary confinement in Horse-rod open prison, near Hamlet's castle in Elsinore, last Thursday after an abortive attempt to escape.

He has filed a suit for high treason against the Danish Minister of Justice on the ground that his continued imprisonment after his re-election was unconstitutional.

Mr Glistrup, the founder of the anti-taxation Progress Party, was expelled from Parliament last July when the Supreme Court confirmed his prison sentence at the end of a nine-year legal battle.



Leader-in-exile: Miss Bhutto (Photograph: Brian Harris)

Bhutto's daughter fears Zia will split country

By Hazir Teimourian

Pakistan's most powerful opposition leader, Miss Benazir Bhutto, now in exile in London, yesterday denounced the martial law regime of General Zia ul-Haq.

The longer it continues, the greater will become the polarization in the land, the gap between rich and poor, the alienation of the minority provinces from the centre and the greater strength of separatist tendencies," she said.

In an interview with *The Times*, she said she had not yet had sufficient time to consult her colleagues in the People's Party about their political strategy.

She intends to seek treatment for an infection which has troubled her since 1978 and made her deaf in one ear. She also plans to bring herself up to date with political developments since she was first detained in July 1977, the date of the military coup that brought General Zia to power and resulted in the execution of her father, Zulfikar Ali Bhutto.

Still puzzled by General Zia's reasons for suddenly releasing her, she is composed and displays a surprising degree of political skill under questioning, though she is only 30 years old.

Pope to see Glemp over dissidents

From Roger Boyes
Warsaw

The Polish Primate, Cardinal Jozef Glemp, will discuss with the Pope the current attempts of the Roman Catholic Church to free 11 former Solidarity leaders and advisers and the possibility of persuading the Government to drop charges against four radical priests.

As the Primate arrived in Rome yesterday, Polish police called in for interrogation Father Jerzy Popiełuszko, who is accused of storing explosives, ammunition and Solidarity leaflets in his apartment.

In Rome, Mgr Glemp confirmed that efforts were under way to free the 11 prisoners who include Jacek Kuron and Adam Michnik - two leading KOR activists - and Mr Lech Wałęsa's former deputy in the Solidarity union, Andrzej Gwiazda.

In Warsaw, it is becoming clear that the Church will urge the release of at least some of the prisoners on medical grounds. "The important thing is to break the myth of the 11," one Church adviser said, "to show the Government that releasing first, a few, then everybody, will not threaten them and will not involve a loss of face."

Most Western diplomats in Warsaw believe that the freeing of the 11 will be the decisive move for the West, which is poised to lift at least a few of the remaining sanctions against Poland.

The Primate has also expressed the hope that the arrest of the defence counsel, Mr Michal Bednarekiewicz, on charges of sheltering a fugitive, inciting false evidence and giving away state secrets, was a misunderstanding.

The Church is showing a close interest in the case of this lawyer because he was engaged to defend the interests of St. Martin's Church after security officials broke into an aid centre there and destroyed medicines. Church advisers link the arrest of Mr Bednarekiewicz with the fact that he is representing the poet Barbara Sadowska, the mother of a schoolboy who died last year shortly after being taken into police custody. The trial of two ambulance drivers, two policemen and two doctors is due to begin in the first few days of February.

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Husain commits Jordan to peace at state opening of Parliament

From Christopher Walker

Amman

The key role Jordan will play in the efforts to find a peace formula in the Middle East were underlined repeatedly at yesterday's state opening of Parliament, the first such occasion since the 1967 war.

"You are starting your session at a time when our Arab region is at a crossroads, with colossal events engulfing it from all directions," Husain told Deputies, including a number from the occupied West Bank.

"We in Jordan, by virtue of our geographical location and Arab belonging, stand in the midst of such events which require the doubling of our responsibilities and our obligations."

The relative brevity of the 25-minute address was seen as a reflection of the weak state of the King's health after his hospital treatment for bleeding stomach ulcer. The spontaneous standing ovation he received from more than 1,000 invited notables was a convincing demonstration of his popularity.

Those close to the monarch - showing the strain of his turbulent, 31-year reign - said he had agonized privately for hours over the wording. The result, delivered in ringing and, at times, impassioned Arabic, was clearly intended to signal a new era in the search for peace.

Western experts saw it as a significant pointer to the way in which Jordan will attempt to



King Husain: Short speech because of ulcer

break the stranglehold over Arab action exerted by the reactionist states.

The unprecedented security around the buildings was a grim reminder of the dangers King Husain is defying in his efforts to prod the PLO towards a course of moderation. In addition to the mounted heavy machine guns at every corner, marksmen were sullenly posted on every roof-top.

Without mentioning President Assad of Syria or Colonel Gaddafi of Libya by name, the King left no doubt whom he was accusing when he spoke of rescuing joint Arab action from "the circle of infested paralysed" and replacing unanimous with majority decisions.

The King was thought to be looking towards the next Arab summit, due in Riyadh in March. Diplomats believe he

would like to form an Arab grouping which contained just the moderate states, although such a move does not seem feasible.

Apart from the dominant international theme, King Husain also emphasized his reasons for recalling Parliament - some members had to be helped to their places because of their infirmity. There was loud applause when he pledged: "Parliamentary life is the foremost and essential pillar in our constitution."

Already, plans are under way for by-elections in the East Bank in advance of the general election expected in about 12 months. "We are resuming our parliamentary life together. We are going back to the normal situation," the King said - sentiments rare in the Arab world.

Twice he referred to the economic difficulties Jordan is facing after years of sustained growth, but emphasized these would not affect plans to develop the armed forces. Although the tone of the speech was pragmatic, particularly in regard to future cooperation with the PLO, there were occasional passages of wishful thinking.

Referring to the coincidence of the state opening and the Islamic Conference in Morocco, the King said: "It is a good occasion to ask our brothers meeting there to pay their utmost attention to Jerusalem, on which one day they will all converge."

French sign £3 billion Saudi arms contract

From Diana Geddes
Paris

An arms deal, worth about Fr 35bn (£36m), has been signed by France and Saudi Arabia. The contract, France's biggest, is more than the total of French arms exports for the whole of last year.

The Defence Ministry announced on Saturday that "an important agreement... for the provision of military material" has been concluded with Saudi Arabia, but refused to give further details. The contract is understood to include mainly electronic command and control systems and low-level air defence, based on a derivative of the Crotale missile.

It is the third big arms deal between the countries in the past decade, and the first under President Mitterrand. The previous contracts, in 1975 and 1980, were both valued at Fr 14bn.

France is Saudi Arabia's second most important supplier after the United States. Britain had been keeping a close watch on developments, having an interest in providing material in that area itself, but accepted that it was never really in the running.

The deal is a godsend to the French arms industry which saw exports fall by more than a quarter last year from a record Fr 41bn in 1982, to about Fr 30bn. There had been talk of big layoffs in some of the main arms companies, like the state-owned Aérospatiale, producer of the Exocet missile.

A sharp drop in orders from the Middle East, due to the fall in oil prices, has been largely to blame. The proportion of French arms exports going to the Middle East and North African Arab nations fell from 83 per cent of the total in 1982 to 62 per cent last year.

France has good relations with Saudi Arabia, which was one of the first countries visited by President Mitterrand after he came to power in 1981. The Riyadh Government supports France's role in the Iraq-Iran conflict and had not criticized the presence of French forces in Beirut.

Mr George McGovern would get several minor awards, was the most succinct speaker, the most articulate exponent of traditional liberal Democratic views and the most gracious.

Mr Mondale would get a consolation prize for managing to keep some of his cool most of the time.

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Turkey, after winning a protracted argument on agenda priorities, agreed to have its Athens ambassador attend as an observer, but asked for a two-week delay to allow it time to prepare for the meeting.

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حکایت الام

THE ARTS

Concerts

Harmless tonalities

Music Projects

Riverside

The "new tonality", in which Music Projects/London were due to be instructing us on Sunday, turned out to be not so very different from the old, only a good deal slower and a good deal simpler. That was not altogether surprising. Both the composers represented, Ladislav Kupkovic and Gavin Bryars, have long shown a taste for some of the more harmless music of the past, which they cherish so well as not to let it fall prey to maverick modern uncertainties. It is not to them, therefore, that we should be listening for new tonalities but rather to other composers who have, in the last decade or so, found paths of musical thought that are really new and unprecedentedly tonal: Stockhausen, Ligeti, Davies and Boulez are a few diverse names that spring to mind.

Mind, however, had not a lot to do with this concert, except in Richard Bernas's cool conducting. Kupkovic got the thing off to a bad start with his *Scandalous*, a few bars of Spanish dance rattling interminably with irregular breaks and slight diversions, played by a diminished band of strings with trumpet and kettle drums. His *Requiem for my Suicide*, for two pianos, was a montage of similar fragments, most of which could have come from anywhere in the century of light music ending around 1962. Perhaps the title is meant to suggest music done after the slaughter of the ego, but the piece proved only that after his suicide Kupkovic had very little to say.

From Bryars we heard his classic *The Stinking of the Titane*, which imagines the disaster taking place in infinite slowness as the orchestra play a hymn, and which is bizarre enough to be interesting. His more recent *Les Finacailles*, for strings and piano, was a bit like a rewrite of the sweet paean from Messiaen's *Quartet for the End of Time*.

Paul Griffiths

Divertimenti/Ziegler Queen Elizabeth Hall

You could argue that Bach and Hindemith had in common, besides their place of origin, an attitude to composition as something serviceable, appropriate to the forces that were to perform it, and accessible to their audiences; both were, stylistically speaking, a little old fashioned. Certainly Hindemith strove to emulate Bach in works like his symmetrically-organized *Ludus Tonalis*, and the two sit happily in the same concert – as they did in this Divertimenti tribute to Hindemith just after the twentieth anniversary of his death.

But Bach always goes a little further. It is likely that the Brandenburg court could not muster the players for the concertos he sent them: no matter to him, for they demonstrated his skill in a variety of forms and scorings. The violinist Paul Barritt, who directed

cheerful but unexploratory readings of the First and Second Concertos, unwise eschewed the bright tone of the *violin piccolo* in the First, and Jonathan Impey revived memories of old-style Bach trumpet playing in the Second. And whence came the violins' inventive little variant of the second trio in the minuet of the First Concerto?

Hindemith was better served, by the Kammermusik No 1 – that wild piece which made his reputation in the early 1920s – and by the sober and thoughtful *Truermusik* for viola (most eloquently played by Gustav Clarkson) which Hindemith dashed off in London in the day in 1936 when King George V died. I am not so sure that Divertimenti were wise, however, to revive the Concerto for woodwinds and harp of 1949, another occasional piece for a more cheerful occasion (Hindemith's silver wedding). It received a sparkling, amiable performance from its five excellent soloists under Ronald Ziegler's not always elegant but firm direction: but from incoherence it lapsed in the finale's rewrite of Mendelssohn's "Wedding March", into farce.

Nicholas Kenyon

BBC SO/Pritchard Barbican/Radio 3

To bring into comparison the last symphonies of Haydn and Schumann, as the BBC did on Saturday night to end the short series of concerts featuring their music, was to invite thoughts on the difference in their intentions as well as on the music itself. Less than 60 years separated what Haydn brought to London and what Schumann revised for Düsseldorf, but the contrast of symphonic purpose worked more to Haydn's advantage on this occasion than to Schumann's.

A far more than a hundred works in the form he made so resourceful, Haydn in his "London" Symphony sounded still anxious to extend and develop it with a wealth of fertile ideas. Sir John Pritchard's conducting made the first two movements unduly staid, and narrow in the dynamic contrasts which give the music its character, but a more invigorating spirit later developed in the BBC Symphony Orchestra's playing.

The account of Schumann's Fourth Symphony was agreeably brisk at the outset, and the conductor brought a supple rhythmic articulation to build the final climax. Yet at no point was there a sense of the music's inner compulsion, that this was what Schumann needed to say.

This was kept more within the capacity of his then increasingly erratic imagination in the Cello Concerto, which had Zara Nelsova as a soloist of assured eloquence. The long sweep of her phrasing, the richness of tone in double-stopping, and an extended cadenza in the last movement were all features of a performance reflecting affectionate regard if not deep feeling.

Noel Goodwin

Rebecca Horn

Serpentine

Mulheimer Freiheit

ICA

Galerie Poll - Berlin

Goethe Institute

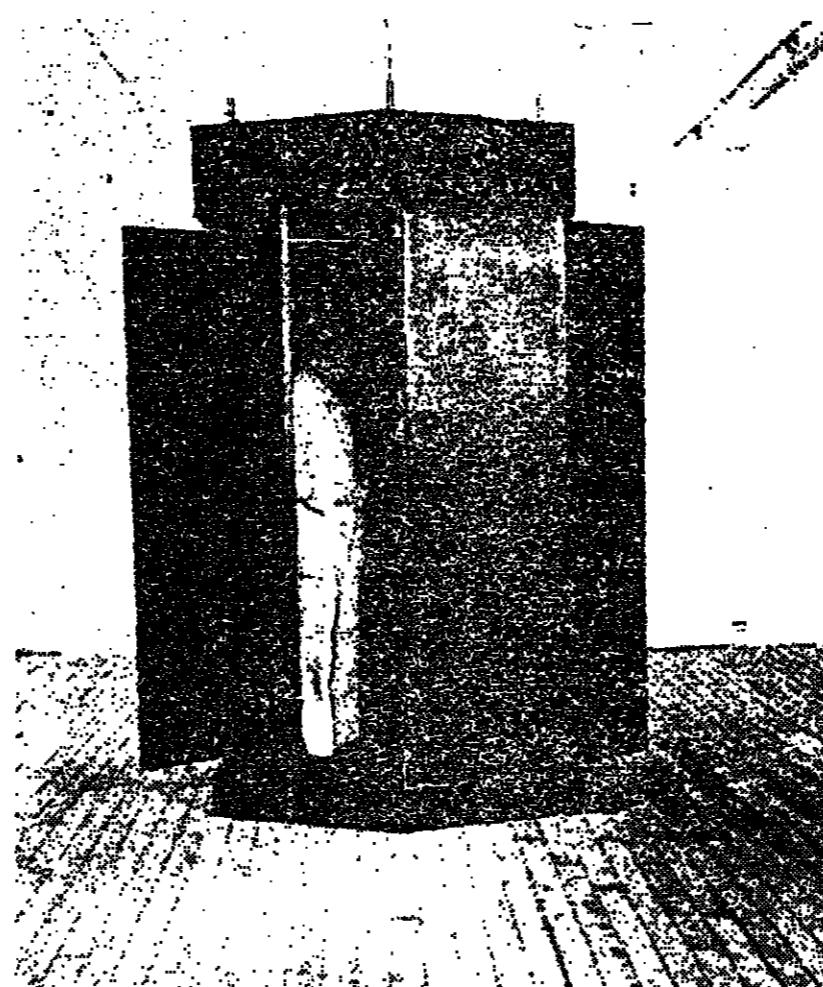
Rebecca Horn is that interesting oddity, an artist whose talents genuinely do lie athwart the conventional categories. It has been fashionable for some time to talk about the breakdown of traditional genres, and many artists aim hopefully at being unclassifiable, but long-established habits of mind are not always so easy to dispose of, and as a rule we are still aware that this artist is essentially a painter or a draughtsman, that artist creates naturally in terms of modelling, and so on. The case of Horn is quite different. She uses of herself, or at least seems to authorize the use of, the term "sculptor", and in the expanded usage of last year's Hayward/Serpentine sculpture show, which included photographs and concrete poetry and sound-structures, I suppose that is correct. But anyone going to the Serpentine before February 19 in the expectation of seeing much – or anything – which he would automatically call sculpture is in for a shock.

Perhaps the centre of Horn's work, as revealed here in this first comprehensive exhibition in Britain, is performance. The structures or constructions are all kinetic – that is, they move and do things on their own (with a bit of help from electricity). And the clue to their hidden nature may be found at the end of Horn's medium-length film *Der Einanter (The Dancing Cavalier)*, which is showing at 8pm in the cinema of the Royal College of Art each Thursday during the exhibition, and at other times on tape at the Serpentine. There, after we have seen children being taught movement and dance, and a blind man being coached in the tango, the floor is finally left to a small black table, which has been so affected by the ambience that it begins, of its own volition, to move across the room in perfect tango rhythm. Parts of the Serpentine at the moment have the air of a *bon viveur fantaisie*, where formless-looking objects may suddenly launch into movement, whether or not (but perhaps especially when not) any mere human is watching.

Objects which do not perform themselves are generally adjuncts to performances, past and future, by people. Again, we see in *Der Einanter* how some of these strange entanglements of straps and feathers and such may be used, and the videos normally

Galleries

A sculpture of animating the inanimate

Inviting, and excluding: *The Chinese Fiancée*

running in the Serpentine show performances in progress, as do most of the black-and-white photographs (it is slightly disappointing that there is one actually inside *Paradise Widow*, a tall construction of black cock-feathers on a metal frame which is beautiful and mysterious in itself, but would, were it working, open to reveal someone nude and female). The atmosphere of performance is rendered more palpable in the second room by the way that the masks (some inviting, like the *Cockatoo Mask* of white feathers which would completely cover the face, others repellent like the *Pencil Mask*, which could cost any one approaching too close any eye) and harnesses are shown with the travelling boxes in which they came, like glorified prop boxes backstage.

The *Cockatoo Mask* is a crucial exhibit in another way. In the show one may feel, without quite being able to pin it down, a curious combination of whimsy and the sinister. The *Cockatoo Mask* suggests why and how. All Horn's work – though most clearly the narrative films, *Der Einanter* and the

more recent feature *La Esmeralda* – seems to concern strategies of inclusion and exclusion. Does the mask invite us to explore the face underneath, or is it more potently a way of keeping intruders at bay? Both probably, for the ambiguity is central to the effect – in the same way that the characters in *La Esmeralda* (which could be well worth some enterprising film distributor's attention), shut away in their Medici villa, at once invite and repel newcomers, or anything which will upset the precarious balance of their lives. Another kinetic sculpture in the show, *The Chinese Fiancée*, is based on the same duality: a sort of black box, activated by the weight of anyone who enters, it slowly closes, and then in the darkness you hear whisperings in Chinese, at once inviting in tone and excluding because of the language. Meanwhile, of course, the occupant is totally, voluntarily, cut off from the outside world, only to be gradually, dazzlingly restored to it after a few moments.

At least Horn's work does have this element of invitation, at times almost

of invitation, at times almost

coquettish. The other German artists currently on show in London, at the ICA and the Goethe Institute, seem to feel little or no need to attract; if questioned on the subject, most of them seem to feel that they are not really in the German grain at all, yet we can still see the good old Expressionist angst writ large all over their work, usually taking the form of an extreme violence of visual gesture. Not only is the subject-matter, where decipherable – particularly in the show of the Mulheimer Freiheit group labelled "The Second Bombing", at the ICA until February 12 – usually very violent, with a lot of blood and guts and general nastiness splashed across the canvas, but the colours in which it is painted aim deliberately at a nervy, twisting shrillness and wilful discord.

Much, it is tempting to say, as we would expect: whether or not they *admit* to being part of the same movement, almost all the younger German painters who now get an international showing seem to have pounced on the neo-Expressionist violence of the *Zeitgeist* group with the delight of coming home. Some of them, of course, do it better than others: Georg Jiri Dokoupil, for example, paints quite highly finished pieces with as much of surrealism as expressionism about them – maybe it is his Czech background that does it. Peter Bommels seems at the moment to be specializing in furred pictures of a peculiarly unpleasant texture, which are at least distinctive. On the other hand, Gerhard Nascher's superimposition of bold geometric figures in white on turbulent patterns of colour seems merely arbitrary, as though the result of a desperate search for something different, just for the sake of being different.

The artists in the cross-section presented at the Goethe Institute until March 1 by the Galerie Poll – Berlin are at least easier on the eye. They include Hodicke, who taught or influenced many of the *Zeitgeist* group and remains a more interesting painter than most of his followers, and a painter called G. L. Gabriel, who draws on canvas, rather than strictly speaking paints, people and buildings and, if he refers back to anything in the German artistic past, seems to have more in common with the mystic geometry of Feininger than anything else. Expressionist angst is most clearly to be seen in the work of Lambert M. Wintersberger, who also seems, perhaps because of the familiarity of his style, to be the least interesting artist on show. And yet, without that element, so much new German art seems curiously flavourless. Have our responses become coarsened by the noisier sort of new art? Or is it, after all, something to do with that elusive but much discussed entity, the German soul?

John Russell Taylor

Rock

Healthier attitude

The Pretenders

Hammersmith Odeon

Recent months have not been kind to the Pretenders. The deaths of two founding members – victims of the more absurd pressures infecting rock and roll – left the singer Chrissie Hynde starting from scratch. The band's latest record, *Learning to Crawl*, is understandably a patchy, transitional affair.

At least their live performance indicates that the Pretenders are capable of shaping themselves into an exciting act again. Less volatile than before, they possess a healthier attitude to their work. From the outset of "Back to Ohio" and "Message of Love", it was clear that Hynde wanted to focus on ability rather than personality. This current version of the group is deliberately unfashionable though not so traditional in style that they fall foul of nostalgia.

Occasionally, the new members Robbie McIntosh and Malcolm Foster seemed overkeen to prove their merits. There was too much instrumental bravado in "Mystery Achievement" and "Precious". Such lapses diluted Hynde's mature approach.

When the group tackled the subdued atmospheres of "I Go to Sleep" and the tense drama of "Private Life" their cohesion and instrumental flair were taken as read. While Hynde accentuated the democracy of her band it was her singing and rhythm guitar that left the most lasting impression. There is a sensual, raw quality in her voice that recalls great girl singers like Ronnie Spector, as well as a seductive turn of lyrical phrase which elevates her above the plastic pop standard. Versions of the Persuaders' "Thin Line Between Love and Hate" and the Kinks' "Stop Your Sobbing" kept the spirit of the originals and added something extra.

After a genuine encore, including the recent hit "2000 Miles", a slapstick attack on Bradford and Gordy's chestnut "Money" and a swaggering "Brass in Pocket", Hynde allowed herself the luxury of a little victory jig. In the circumstances it was quite justified.

Max Bell

tories – by accepting their gifts and their medicine, they were lost.

It would be a sentimental primitivism to see in this nothing but catastrophe – the same Indians had, after all, killed the child simply because it had annoyed them – and Brazil will no doubt grow ineluctably until it becomes a centre of world power. But nevertheless there are many who suffer in the process – the natives, of course, but also those they attack out of desperation and fear. It was a most unhappy, as well as fascinating, story – and quite the best documentary in recent months.

Peter Ackroyd

Television

Natural metaphors for dark humanity

peering two centuries back, except that this was far more disconcerting than the legends of earlier conquest and native reaction. The geography itself instils a sense of wonder: the swelling rivers, the dark rain-forests, the lushness of the foliage which resembled a form of elephantiasis. The people who lived here are "alien" indeed – the Brazilian settlers divide the world into "Indian" and "civilized", and the unsettling presence of the tribes becomes

mother of the missing child consulted a Voodoo priestess for news of her son. It turned out that the natives had killed him simply because he cried too much.

Adrian Cowell spent three years making this film, and stumbled upon the story of little Fabio quite by chance. It was a melancholy but useful accident since it lent immediacy to Mr Cowell's account of the struggle between natives and settlers as the camera crew penetrated the jungle even as they exploit it, and the

further into the jungle, this became a dramatic rather than "investigative" documentary. That drama culminated in the first encounter with the Indians themselves. They had never been seen before and one knew that, from the first moment they showed themselves (and how much more ruinous to do so in front of cameras, for the benefit of an international audience), their old life was gone for ever. For them, the Brazilians were the enemy, bringing disease and extirpating their ancestral territ-

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Peter Ackroyd

First class honours at polytechnics

Engineering

Mathematics

Medicine

Physics

Politics

Psychology

Science

Sociology

Teaching

Technology

Textiles

Transport

Urban studies

Business

Computer science

Design

Education

Engineering

Health

Humanities

Information

Language

Law

Marketing

Media

Music

Philosophy

Physics

Politics

Psychology

Science

Sociology

Teaching

Technology

Textiles

Transport

Urban studies

Business

Computer science

Design

Education

Engineering

Health

Humanities

Information

Language

Marketing

Media

SPECTRUM

Repairing the dents in detente

This week's Stockholm conference comes at a time of hardened attitudes in the West about the value of good relations with the Soviet Union. Richard Davy argues that much US rhetoric is based on a misreading of history

Detente is dead. Long live dialogue? When Mr Shultz meets Mr Gromyko in Stockholm tomorrow will be tempting to celebrate the return of superpower diplomacy. After all, it ought to make sense, the confrontational approach of the Reagan administration has achieved no very obvious successes. It has not made the Russians more amenable in negotiation. It has subjected the Western alliance to very severe strains. It has increased budget deficits, raised interest rates, and worried a lot of Americans. It has not helped Mr Reagan's election prospects except, apparently, among white, male blue-collar workers. Sensing some of this, the Reagan administration has been moving towards a new phase of dialogue, perhaps leading to a summit, when the Soviet Union shot down the Korean airliner, plunging the relationship back into acrimony. The Russians then withdrew from the arms talks in Geneva and let it be known that they were no longer open for business with the administration.

Now Mr Andropov has disappeared from view, so there is nobody to have a summit with, while Mr Reagan's victory in Grenada has made his election platform less urgently in need of a peace plank – though he still gets low ratings for foreign policy. But many of the pressures for a revival of East-West diplomacy remain, especially in Europe. Even Mrs Thatcher is talking about dialogue and preparing to visit Hungary. The French are also wondering whether they can afford to be left out. Mr Reagan cannot leave all the running to the Europeans of – riskier still – to his Democratic opponents.

Nevertheless, one trip to Stockholm does not bring back detente. Washington remains divided on East-West relations, and deeply suspicious of the whole business. One of the troubles is that it has got its history wrong. The prevailing myth in that capital of myths and fashions is that the detente of the 1970s was all a great mistake which brought nothing but gains for the Soviet Union and losses for the West. Mrs Jeane Kirkpatrick says it was a time of "unilateral moral and political disarmament" in the West, while the Soviet Union relentlessly expanded its power. Hence, we are all supposed to be pleased that the illusions of detente have been exploded so that we can now face up to the true nature of Soviet wickedness and celebrate the return of American self-confidence.

This is bad history so it produces bad policies. In the first place it exaggerates the extent of the illusions that prevailed during detente. Dr Kissinger and other senior officials who framed the policies of the time were tireless in explaining that the Soviet Union was still an adversary, that competition continued, and that Soviet expansion must be resisted.

They assumed that the Soviet leaders were rational people who, while seeking to expand Soviet influence, also wanted other things, such as Western technology, arms control and acknowledgement of their status as a superpower. Hence they might be open to bargains and diplomatic arrangements.

That this policy was misunderstood is obvious. It was misunderstood on both flanks – by those who regard it as a form of appeasement and by those who thought it meant the end of confrontation. The Americans made mistakes which contributed to misunderstandings. In 1972 the two super powers signed a foolish document agreeing that neither would manoeuvre

for advantage in the Third World. Lord Wilson, when Prime Minister said that detente meant "live and let live" and offered the Russians an excessively generous line of credit, of which they took only part. Too many people forgot that the Russians openly proclaimed that detente was an opportunity for continuing ideological and political struggle, helping wars of liberation and generally nudging the world towards communism. There never was any chance that they would settle for a static world.

But the West's mistakes and misunderstandings of the 1970s do not wholly discredit the idea of trying to improve and regulate relations with the Soviet Union. Detente failed as much because it was badly managed as because its concepts were flawed. The American political system was not capable of the necessary coherence and fine diplomatic tuning, especially after the loss of presidential authority in the wake of Vietnam and Watergate. As Mr Helmut Sonnenfeldt once put it, the doves destroyed the sticks while the hawks destroyed the carrots. The Clark amendment stopped the use of force against Cubans in Angola (possibly rightly in the circumstances but setting a risky precedent) while the Jackson-Vanik amendment over-loaded the trade negotiations with the Soviet Union by demanding formal commitments on emigration, which had already been given privately. As a result, the Soviet Union decided that the bargain was not worthwhile, so both trade and emigration suffered.

Detente failed because it was badly managed

Even so, the balance sheet of the 1970s did not come out wholly in favour of the Soviet Union. There were gains for the West too. In its first phase, detente brought the Berlin agreement of 1971, which had held up well, and the West German treaties with Eastern Europe, which opened up the area to West German diplomacy, greatly enlarged human contacts, and enhanced the usefulness of the German threat to the regimes of the Eastern Bloc. In Poland in particular the political scenery was transformed when almost the only link between government and people – fear of Germany – was removed.

Then came the Helsinki agreement of 1975, which was strongly opposed by many people now influential in Washington because they did not understand what it was about and could not believe that the West could go into negotiations on a Soviet proposal and come out on top. Yet Helsinki, although it has not been much implemented, was a significant diplomatic victory for the West. It showed that the West could stick together in negotiation. It opened Eastern Europe to public scrutiny and created a continuing forum in which the internal affairs of the area can be discussed legitimately. It also gave a good deal of discomfort to the Soviet Union. It is now invoked by people who would have killed it before birth if they had had the chance, which suggests that they may be fallible.

Detente also brought massive emigration from the Soviet Union, which was a humanitarian and propaganda success for the West and added enormously to our knowledge of the Soviet Union. Wolf Solzhenitsyn and Bukovsky be alive and writing in the West today if the Soviet Union had not felt obliged to pay some heed to Western opinion? Would hundreds of thousands of Jewish families be free? Would Shcharansky be in prison today if detente had survived? It is too easily forgotten what concessions the Soviet Union made to Western opinion while it still thought there were benefits to be gained in exchange.

At the same time, the Soviet Union became a lot more open to the West. Jamming of Western broadcasts was much reduced, and so was Soviet propaganda against the West. Contacts became easier, visits increased, and more Soviet citizens were exposed to Western ideas, arguments, consumer goods and other pleasantly-corrupting side-effects of detente. Many members



of the apparatus acquired a personal stake in detente. Western influence penetrated even more deeply into Eastern Europe, stimulating consumerism, unfavourable comparisons with the West, and impatience with the system. The effects of such penetration would show only over many years but there is no reason to think they would be negligible.

At the same time the Soviet Union accepted economic inter-dependence and Western credits. Some critics of detente see this as a net gain for the Russians because it allegedly gave them the benefits of easy trade, including a boost for their military potential, without exacting any change of behaviour in return. This is only half true. Western credits were certainly too easy, and some of the trade was ill-advised, but low interest rates were often balanced by higher prices.

The benefits of Western trade were generally less than is often claimed. The Soviet Union certainly acquired some valuable military technology, but much of this was through illegal channels, where controls admittedly became too lax during detente. Legitimate trade played a more modest role, and Soviet economic growth continued to slow down.

Western calculations went awry in Eastern Europe but there, too, the losses were by no means all on the Western side. Some Western banks suffered a bit, mainly in Poland, but Eastern Europe as a whole has now turned around its balance of payments and is servicing its debts from a surplus, so the net flow is from East to West. For many years it will be struggling with this burden of debts and cutting living standards to pay for them.

Whether one regards this as a good thing depends on what one hopes for in Eastern Europe but Western critics of detente can hardly argue that the West has done Eastern Europe a favour by helping it get into such a mess. The area will remain heavily dependent on the West for many years. Although there are attempts to turn trade back to Moscow they cannot go beyond a certain point without damaging the ability to service Western debts. This would give the West some bargaining power if it knew how to use it.

On the whole, the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe proved very bad at absorbing Western technology. Machines were left to rust, plants were badly run, and products were often

sub-standard. Many factories remained dependent on Western parts and materials. Some caused trouble by dumping at low prices in the West, but even in the chemical industry, where there were many complaints, only small sectors were affected. The net flow of trade in chemicals remains greatly in the West's favour.

Altogether one of the principal lessons of detente for the East was that Western technology is no substitute for reform. If anything its effect was to bring the systems more sharply up against their shortcomings, especially in Poland, where the expectations aroused and then frustrated by the Gdansk regime did a lot to bring Solidarity into existence.

Probably the most widespread criticism of detente is that it did not restrain Soviet expansion in the Third World. This is true but the Russians never made any secret of their determination to continue helping "wars of liberation" so it is naive to express shock, horror and surprise. The Russians will expand their influence wherever they can do so without excessive risk. The West cannot expect voluntary restraint for the sake of abstract principles. It must find ways of inducing restraint.

It was inevitable that the Russians would make some gains from the reaction against colonialism. What is surprising is that they made so few.

Nor do the Russians move only forward. They were kicked out of Egypt and Somalia. They were disappointed in Zimbabwe and Iran. They made little progress in Latin America, where detente probably made them restrain Cubans in the 1970s. Nevertheless, the West certainly needs more effective means of restraining Soviet expansion. Detente made it careless, and the Russians became over-confident. Afghanistan is the prime example of the failure of detente but also, paradoxically, of its potential value.

The Russians got the impression that the West had no interest in Afghanistan. By the late 1970s they were also becoming disillusioned with the fruits of detente. They thought they had nothing to fear from the West if they invaded and nothing to gain if they did not. Perhaps they would have paused for another think if the West has engaged itself on behalf of Afghanistan's non-alignment and if detente had still been in full swing, since there would have been more to lose. As it was, the gains seemed obvious and the penalties minimal and temporary.

ligious women to forgo military service, while imposing it on women-like herself who are not.

Twice a year, Yael Dayan tours

the United States on a fund-raising

lecture circuit for the United Jewish

Appeal. She says that she greatly

enjoys speaking, and that she "beats

it out". "I speak very quickly, I

don't ponder and chat.

"Of course things are bad now.

Economically it's a terrible moment

in Israel, but we've become spoilt.

We have to cut back – but it's all fat

muscle.

"I feel passionately that in spite of

all the headlines, in spite of the

world view that we have our finger

on the trigger, we in Israel

have a very positive normal life. I

say this not as a writer but, even if it

sounds banal, as a wife and a

mother. We built our country not to

fight in the Lebanon, but to live

good lives. There is no cultural

claustrophobia in Israel. There is

very little violence or drugs. When

you wake up in the morning and see

that the sun is shining, that your

children are going to excellent

schools, that the beaches are

fabulous, and the oranges terrific,

then you regain a sense of

proportion about what we've done.

And that is something nice."

In contrast, when the Polish crisis blew up in 1980 the West showed great concern and developed fairly severe contingency plans which contributed to holding back the Russians from invading during Solidarity's first winter. But an important factor was that there would have been a very strong reaction in Western Europe.

As for their Soviet military build-up, which also soured many Westerners on detente, no realist expected them to show voluntary restraint when they felt themselves inferior and threatened by China as well as the West. They did slow down their procurement from 1976 onwards, according to the new CIA estimates, but this was probably the result of slow economic growth

A massive loss of confidence in American leadership

Any serious reduction or levelling off of Soviet defence spending will come only as the result of negotiation with the West or a very long period of relaxation. So far the United States has mismanaged arms control. Admittedly, arms control has neither stopped the arms race nor saved money but it has not been seriously tried for more than ten years. The outline of SALT II was finalised in 1974 but President Ford then lost his nerve and President Carter did not sign the agreement until 1979, after which he allowed himself to be baited by a phoney crisis over a Soviet brigade in Cuba and then diverted (more understandably) by Afghanistan, so the agreement was never ratified. Had it been signed and ratified by 1976 we might now be negotiating SALT VI in a calmer atmosphere. Probably few American failures have done more to exacerbate public anxieties in the Western alliance.

Meanwhile, one looks in vain for the "moral and political disarmament" which so bothers Mrs Kirkpatrick. It is true, of course, that American defence spending dipped in real terms during the 1970s, partly as a result of the end of the Vietnam war, but it revived again under Mr Carter and at no time fell low enough to create serious new threats to Western security. The Soviet Union made big gains in military power and global reach but largely with programmes begun before detente. The change in the relative power of the United States was not caused by detente, though detente did induce some laxity.

In Europe, however, which seems to be the main target of Mrs Kirkpatrick's criticisms, defence spending continued to rise throughout the 1970s. Throughout Europe and the West the prestige of the Soviet Union continued to decline. Everyone was reading the Soviet dissidents and protesting against violations of human rights in the Soviet sphere. French intellectuals turned sharply against the Soviet Union. In fact, among Western intellectuals there were fewer illusions about the nature of the Soviet system than at any time since 1917. Even Western communist parties felt obliged to dissociate themselves from the Soviet model, with the result that "Eurocommunism" became briefly fashionable and then faded. In the Third World, too, there was growing disillusion with the Soviet Union.

The rise of the peace movements in the West has been encouraged not by detente but by the collapse of detente. There is not a rise in sympathy for the Soviet Union but a massive loss of confidence in American leadership. Not just the peace movements but the political establishments of Western Europe have become profoundly uneasy at the failure of the United States to develop a coherent, consistent, bi-partisan policy towards the Soviet Union after more than 10 years of trying. This is not "moral disarmament" except on the pacifist fringes of the peace movement. It is an expression of concern that the power to destroy the earth is in the hands of men on both sides who do not understand each other, do not know how to talk to each other, and are incapable of dealing rationally with the enemies which overwhelm their relationship.

moreover... Miles Kington

Wish you were there

This year, have a holiday to remember! *Only from Moreover Travel*: Two weeks on the lovely Iles de Brochure! These palm-fringed islands are only 36 hours from Heathrow. How do you get there? Easy. You just jump in a cab and say: Take me to Heathrow! And seriously, the Brochur Islands are a dream come true. Surrounded by water on all sides, they represent the kind of holiday you thought you'd never have. Swimming, drying, getting sand between your toes, losing your towel – these are just four of the many activities available. Or if you'd rather just sit on the beach and stare merrily into the distance, that can be arranged, too.

The Romans called these islands the Devil's Rocks. The Crusaders came this way, but did not stop. The Portuguese landed in 1567 and left behind the curious structure known to this day as Costa's Grill. In the eighteenth century the French gave it to the British, who did not want it and gave it back. Now, left behind by history, the Iles de Brochur are a quiet haven where you can eat yourself silly or dance the conga, if that's your idea of a good time. Native Brochurians speak English, French, Dutch and German, or Swedish for a sight, surcharge. During the day they wear plain hotel workers' uniforms, but they exchange these in the evening for their native costumes, so that they can sing and dance spontaneously in the residents' dining-room or on-stage in the Garden Barbecue. Their many native folk songs, such as La Cucuracha or the Blue Danube, have been put on a long-playing record which you may purchase in reception.

The Hotel Moreover is the most luxurious on the main island, Paull, but there are many others to choose from, ranging from five-star to one-star. The grading is as follows:

Television in every room, receiving programmes and that night's video film.

Television in every room, receiving programmes.

Television, black and white, in every room, receiving programmes only.

Television in every room, receiving only radio programmes.

Television in the next room.

There are cars on the islands, but most people prefer to use the horse and buggy, which will take you to the interior of the country, down to the beach or wherever the horse feels like it. Once a year the Iles de Brochur erupt in a fantastic Fete de Cabriolet, in which the buggies are decorated with flowers and flags, everyone dances in the streets and all wine is free. This occurs just after or just before your holiday.

For breakfast, you may either use your own bedsheet kettle to brew instant coffee with biscuits, or you may make your way to the breakfast lounge, where the staff will be pleased to serve you instant coffee and biscuits. Lunch is a come-as-you-please affair of salads and cold meats and so is dinner. Dress, of course, is quite informal, though we try to discourage leisurewear within the hotel itself.

If you wish to get away from the hustle and bustle of the beach life, we can recommend a trip into the interior by horse and buggy, taxi, or simply on shanks' pony. The contrast is startling: gone are the luxurious palaces and putting courses of bright green – instead a gaunt hot landscape made up of native rocks and scrub, reaching a height of some 367 metres at its highest. Here you will find small, unspoilt villages, with old Brochurian ladies ready to sell you cold drinks and cups of tea, as they have done from time immemorial.

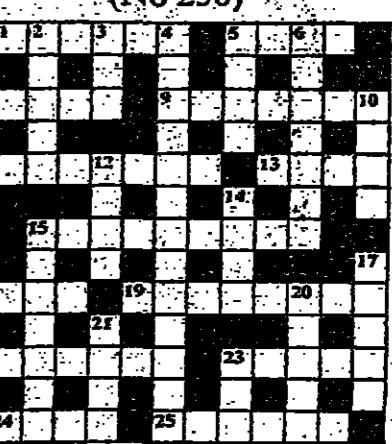
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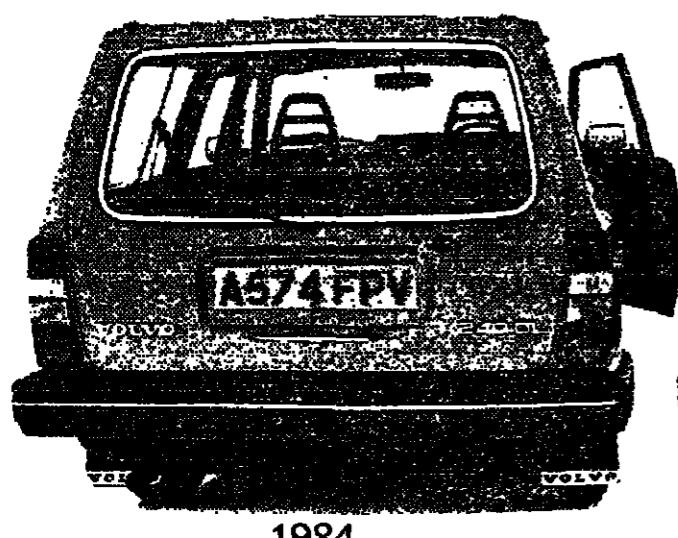
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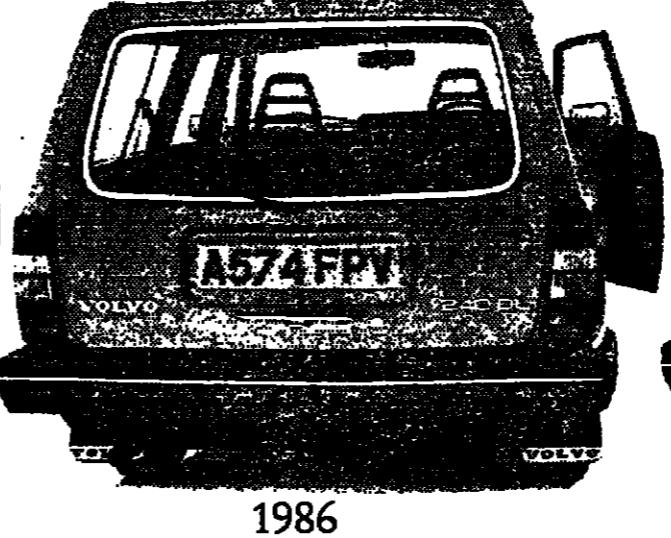
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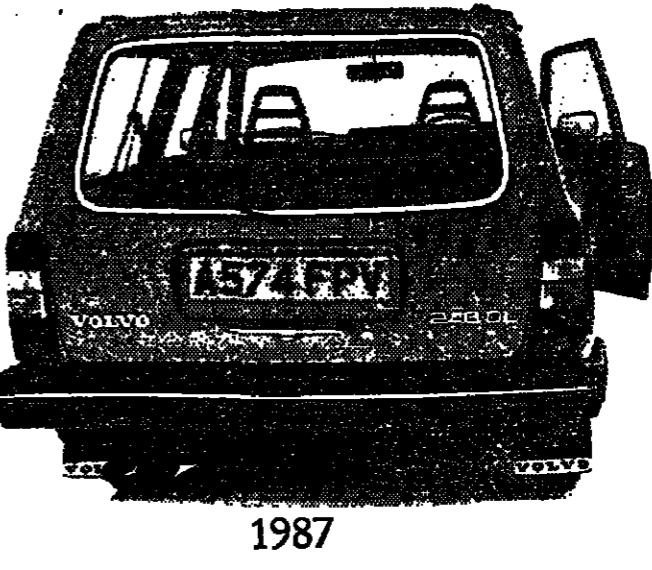
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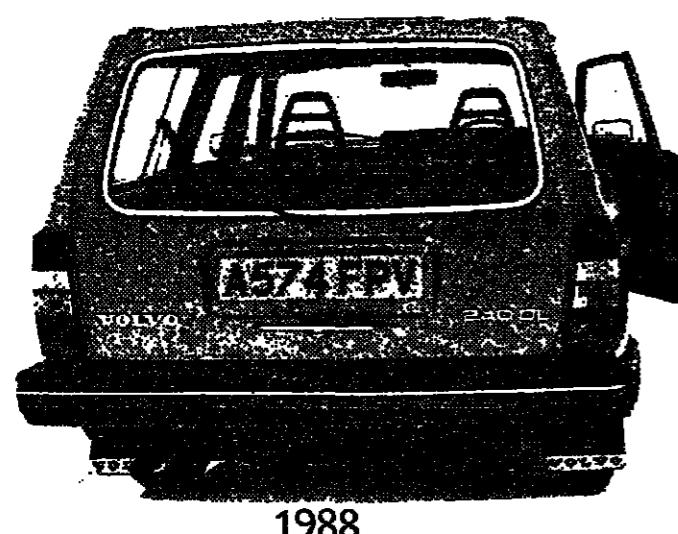
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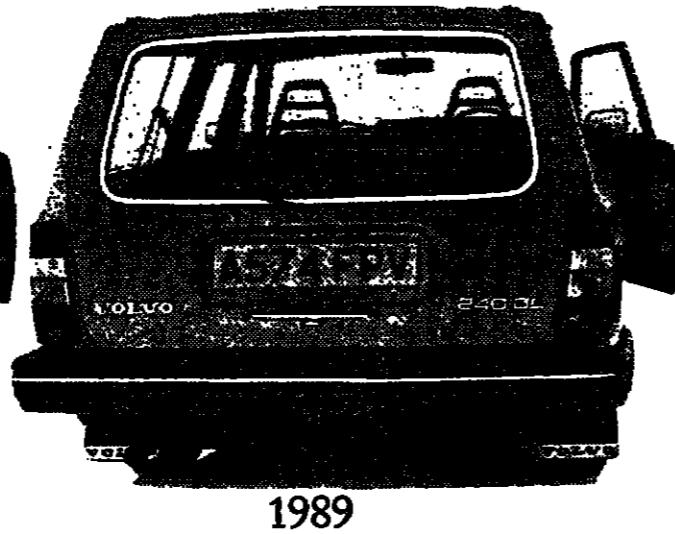
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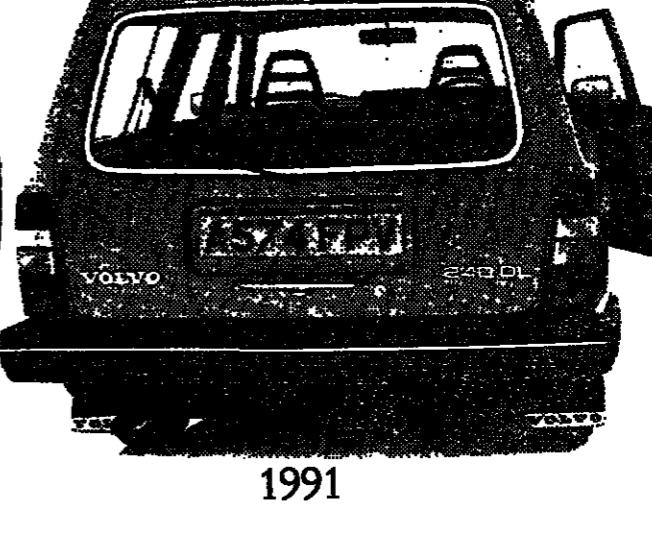
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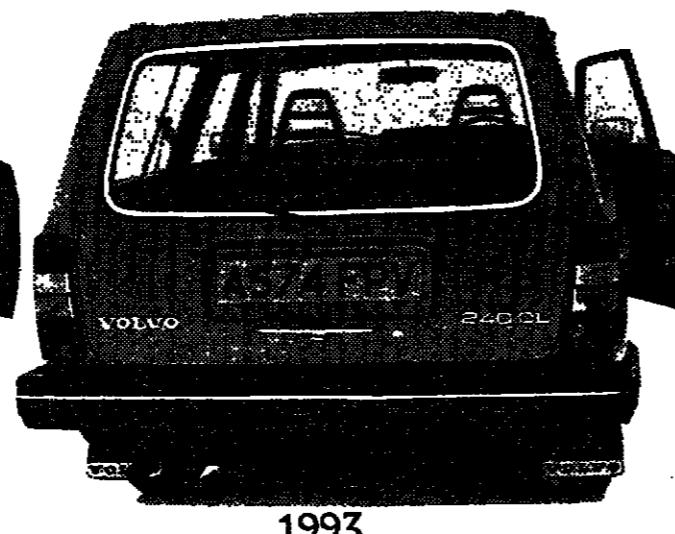
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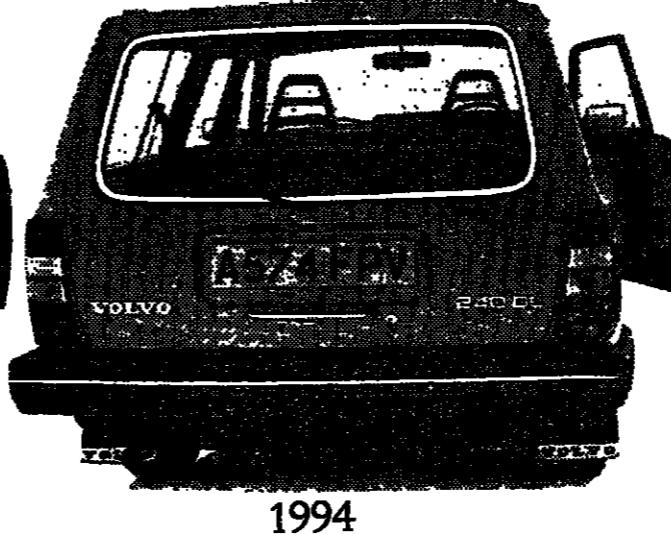
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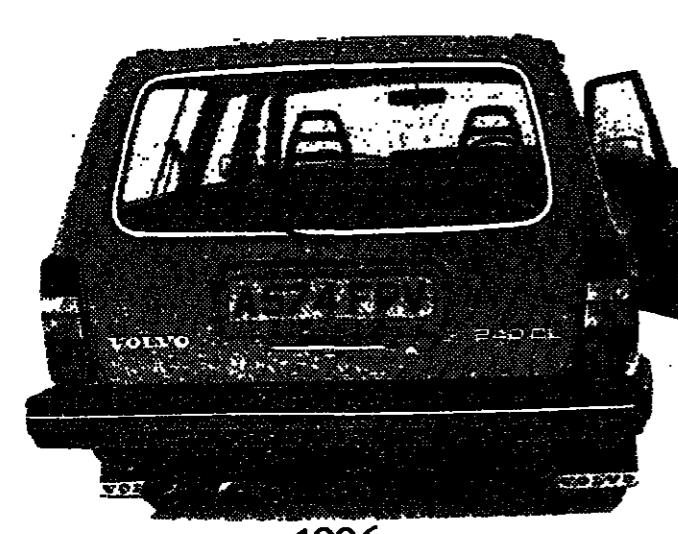
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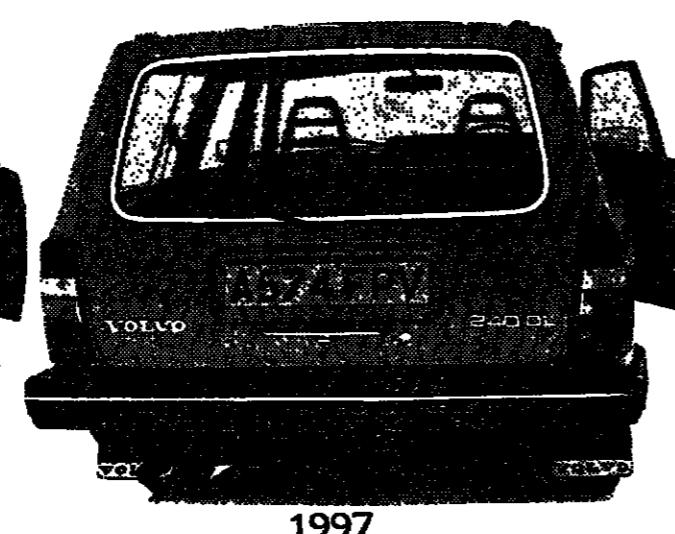
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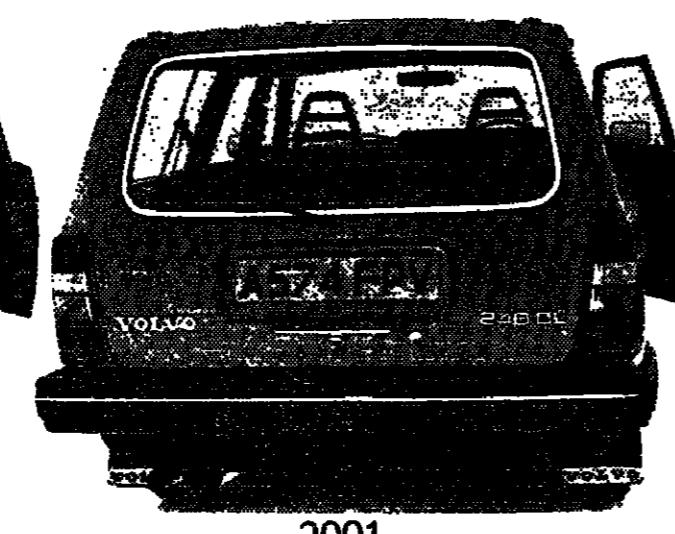
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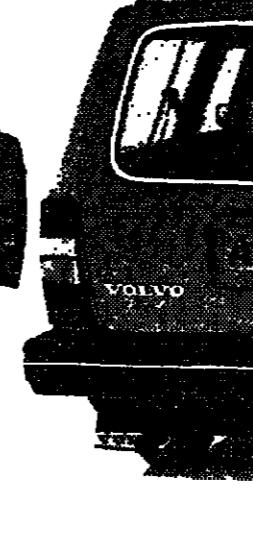
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MEN'S FASHION I

How the beauty business can cash in on Boy George

Preparing the canvas

How far away is make-up for men?

Steve Strange's painted visage and Boy George's girlish looks may be a joke for stand-up comedians; for the beauty trade they could mean big business in the next decade if they serve up a tiny fraction of the male market. Already pop followers have taken up the challenge to draw their own personal works of art in eye pencil. And for every (older) man who finds the new faces unnatural or decadent, there is another who is fascinated by the idea of experimenting with his girlfriend's make-up.

No beauty company is yet bold enough to draw on the arresting pop picture. But they are now beginning to prepare the canvas. Skin care products are designed to soften up both the skin and the minds of men so that they can accept the concept of male grooming. "Grooming" is the word that the trade has chosen instead of the more feminine "beauty". Grooming is, of course, what decent British men do for their horses and this idea of healthy living in the country side is central to the image of men's products.

Clinique was the first important beauty company to launch a skin care regime for men. The idea for it claims, was customer led; women adherents to its fragrance-free and allergy-tested products reported that their menfolk also found them useful. Skin Supplies for Men, launched in Britain last spring, includes similar basic components to the women's regime: a soap, a toner/cleanser (called a "Scruffing Lotion") and a moisturizer. The products are half as strong again as the women's line, which reflects either the resistance of the male skin, or his wallet.

The Skin Supplies are selected by the Clinique computer into which the counter sales person (usually female) feeds the facts. This high-tech aid helps to build a masculine image, according to Carol Phillips, the American founder and president of Clinique (a subsidiary of Estée Lauder). "Men appreciate facts," Carol says. "When men come to our counters they get straight, clear information. We try to educate men pleasantly, so that they can see the products for what they are."

First discreet move towards male make-up

Doing what comes naturally (with a great deal of help from modern science) is the theme of the new treatment cream from Aramis. Their RNA Bio-Complex Moisture Cream seems a long way from the ritual dab of after-shave that used to be a man's one concession to caring for his skin. The soluble Collagen that is the active ingredient in the cream is one that is used for many women's treatment products.

All the existing men's grooming and treatment lines have been pioneered in the US and are designed to appeal - in spite of the outdoor image - to the competitive executive class. In this country, some of the specialist US cleaners, scrubs



Today's hair is about choice. The avant-garde is growing long and lustrous locks, now glossy with health and grooming aids. The post-punk period has made all men aware of the idea of experimenting with changes of style, colour and even texture. New is the Aramis Multiplex hair gel to give men a chance to try new styles and shapes. The Natural Hair Gel (on counters

before the current move towards extrovert fashions in clothes and make-up for men. Fragrance now - in the form of after-shaves, eau de toilette and eau de cologne - is worn by men across a wide spectrum of age and taste. Chanel have two men's lines - A Gentleman's Range for the sophisticated and the newly-launched and rarer: Antaeus Pour Homme. Their name now covers the entire range of bathroom shelf products, from pre-shave, to soap, shower gel, talc and deodorant. Since Chanel No 5 is the name engraved in neat black letters on the mind of every man who stands at a perfume counter, the men's line has a good start.

Famous French names have expanded into grooming ranges. Fifteen years after Dior launched Eau Sauvage, it now emphasises not just the fragrance, but also its treatment products like the after-shave balm and suntan moisture. Guy Laroche's Drakkar Noir and the Pierre Cardin range, like many of the French fragrances, are aimed at the executive man.

Essential ingredient is sex-appeal

The success of the male products has drawn new high-fashion names into the business. Mex Factor launched Mission Uomo last autumn, emphasising Tai Mission's career as an Olympic athlete. Carter's Sun-tan (launched 1982), has a bottle to match the famous brushed steel watch, and marked an important extension to the Lea Musk accessories range. Both Burberry and Aquascutum now have their own fragrance and grooming products - unthinkable in the days when decent men took home something from the barber. The well-established English companies themselves, Floris, Peacock, Dukes of Pall Mall, have an important slice of the market.

Who buys what in this crowded market of fragrances and "cavies" of "toiletries"? Although male purchases (especially in the Christmas period) are vital to the sales and health of a company, research shows that the vitally important younger section of the male market is bought by men.

Even women's fashion designers, whose name and clothes have primarily been promoted in publications aimed at women, have now beamed their message towards men. Although men's fragrances have tended to come in on the bronzed backs of the sun tan products, the bathtime products are dominated by the big names in fragrance.

Those men who received a small bottle of after-shave or cologne from their loved one this Christmas (60 per cent of total sales in the month of December) can have no idea of the selection of fragrances on offer. Boots alone has 16 major varieties, from Faberge's well-publicised Brut 33 to the preppy Polo by Ralph Lauren, to familiar favourites like Shulton's Old Spice.

The sweet smell of success reached the nostrils of the big French perfume houses long ago. Given the cloying and suggestive prose (but not smell) that walls around the men's fragrance business, I welcome the direct approach of Jovan, which claims that its Androm fragrance contains "the most expensive ingredient ever used in perfume, a single kilo costing more than £30,000, and scientifically created to woman". It must be a snip at £3.95 for the after-shave. And who would be man enough to take it back?



Above: Mixed print shirt in stripes, pinstripe and dogtooth check, £47 by David Young, downstage at Hyper Hyper, 25-40 Newington Hill, SW1. Left: Be-Bop shirt with guitar print, £19.95 in wide range of loud colours and '80s prints from Johnsons, 400 King's Road, London SW10 and First Floor, Kensington Market, W8. Paradise Garage, Bristol; Street Clothes, Leeds; Metro, Glasgow; Be-Bop, Newcastle; Climax Clothing, Cardiff; Extremes, Liverpool.



Above: White cotton short-sleeved shirt with black muscadine print, £5.99 from a selection of patterned shirts at Chelsea Men in Exeter, Bodenheads, Dundee, York, Coventry and Glasgow. Left: Kit print shirt with shaped collar, £25 from Stephen King, 315 King's Road SW3. Slim Jim tie from Flip, Long Acre WC2 and branches. Illustrations by JOHN BABBAGE

The patterned shirt is back. Bold and garish or small and discreet prints are being worn by young men as the newest street style, buttoned strictly at the top, usually without a tie. This is the first time since the Seventies that pattern has been a strong trend for menswear. It is part of the sense of adventure in clothes for the modern man and the graphic, graffiti and floral prints make a startling contrast to the ubiquitous mainstream stripes. Long hair from the Flower Power era is also with us again but the total look is sharp and confident with shirts cut loose with small collars and asymmetric pocket detailing.

Mixing fabrics is a popular way of achieving a multi-patterned effect, often tricking the eye with a narrower striped cuff or different colour for the back. Shirt sleeves are dissected with bands of plain colour running under the arm or along the forearm. Stephen King of the English Menswear Designers Guild uses the most unusual fabrics he can find for his shirts and has a lot of 3-D effect designs and textured weaves at his shop in King's Road, Chelsea. At Hyper Hyper, the emporium of street style in Kensington, Donald Fong specialises in handmade shirts and sells to high-style stars of the music world like Paul Young and Simon le Bon.

Fashion always sees a way to bring design full circle and the Fifties has many commercial viabilities for High Street fashion. Chelsea Man's Club and mass market shirt manufacturers Iago Jones have short-sleeved American bowling shirts from the Rock 'n' Roll era in their spring ranges. The best-selling shirts at the Fifties classics shop in the King's Road, Johnsons, are printed with domestic 'kitsch' like formica table tops or old carpet patterns.

Creative dressers are taking the shirts off their backs and

names in the stores. The white collar (but not cuffs) on a striped or plain dark shirt. Van Heusen, Givenchy and Pierre Cardin are using it for executive styles.

Designers are taking over ties too, with swirling paisleys and delicate floral motifs in pastel colours in the formal menswear departments of Austin Reed

and Hornes. Ties are still uniformly narrow but, in the current climate of fashion individualism, it is predicted by many that we will see a return to the wider tie. However, the revival of the kipper tie is hopefully still a few years away.

Christine Painell

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MEN'S FASHION II by Suzy Menkes

Clothes for 'Dickie' Bird, the man behind the national theatre posters, are as graphically positive as his art. Both play with shapes and forms and different textures

Living by design in a high tech age

Richard Bird designs the striking and emotive posters for the National Theatre. From his *ambush have come the vermillion names licking at the lettering of Jean Siberry*, the aquiline figure and elegant title of *The Rivals*, the melancholy central European head against the swimming pool blue of *Tales from Hollywood*.

"A director with a strong sense of what he wants is the easiest to work with," he said. "A poster has to start with the play."

He has worked for 11 years, since before its move to the South Bank. Emotionally as well as practically he is part of the team. "I hope I make an artistic contribution," he said. "I certainly see the brochures and posters as part of the theatre's identity."

I met Richard Bird (of course he is known as "Dickie") to talk about his personal style, which reflects the design direction of his art. He shares his airy studio at the theatre, which faces the winter grey Thames, with co-designer Michael Mayhew, who is primarily responsible for the theatre programmes. Dickie was wearing Versace's slate-black sweater with laser-stamped rubber shoulder pads.

"It's very graphic," he said. "It's using the hard-edged qualities of high tech materials. I like this whole new way of

fashion started by the Japanese. It plays with shapes and forms and different textures and that is what I attempt to do with my posters."

The nature of the job demands that his clothes are casual when he rolls up his sleeves to tackle the art work. He is involved, he says, in all aspects of the posters, graduating from painting to typography and now to initiating the drawing.

"I don't spend a lot of time thinking about clothes," he admitted. "But I do think about colours going together. After all, I am doing that all the time in my work." When he is under pressure, working hard in the studio, he may be in "a pair of tatty jeans and a running shirt". But he is more likely to wear smarter casual clothes.

Inevitably, a man who lives and works by design is drawn to the graphic design-conscious clothes of the Milanese designers. For our photographs, Dickie Bird picked a big soft sweatshirt by Gianfranco Ferré (himself an ex-architect), precision cut into a grid of intersecting panels of fabric and suede. It fulfils the requirements of a job in which he must be comfortable at the drawing board and smart enough to meet a client for some of his design work outside the theatre.

Unlike some men of his generation (he is 36), Richard

Bird is not anti-tailoring. He enjoys the opportunity to wear a suit, usually a sharp-cut Italian design. Gianni Versace's wide-shouldered jacket in geometric checks appealed to him.

"This playing with different sizes of pattern and different textures is very much what I am doing now with the typography on my posters," he said.

The function of his clothes is to present the right kind of design-aware image, as well as the more pedestrian virtues of warmth and decency. His posters too, he said, must be much more than pretty pictures; they are a selling medium.

"A theatre poster packages the play," he explained. "It gives it an identity. It has got to function. You have got to be able to read it across the street and the title must be a large element. Even the type face must be in character with the overall image. The type can actually be quite useful for placing the production in its period, as I did with *The Rivals* or with that 1930s lettering for *Tales from Hollywood*."

Because the policy of the National Theatre is to have a team with no stars, Dickie Bird's NT posters can be an artistic expression of designer and director.

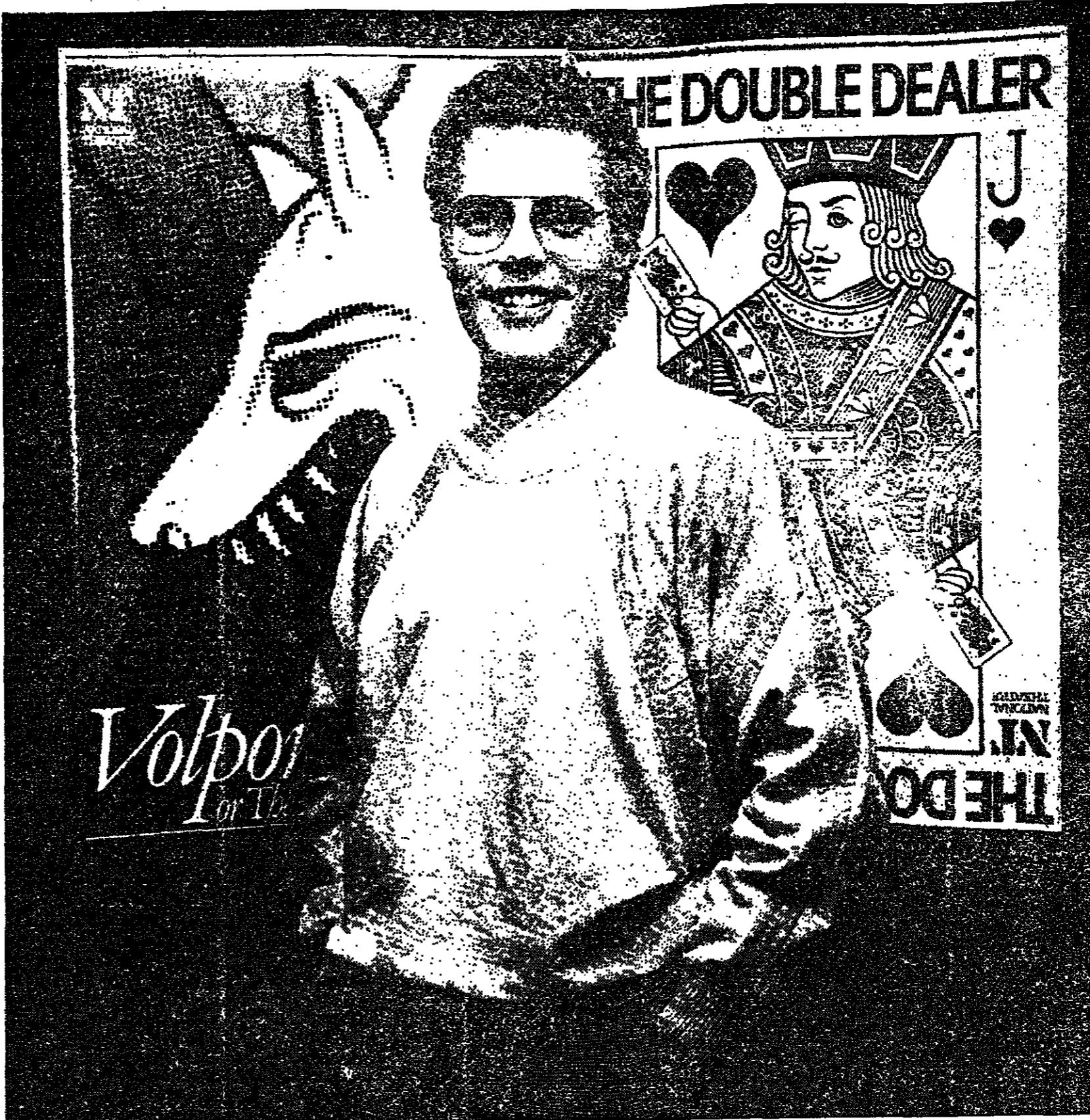
One of his own favourite posters is the wintry silver, spiked with trees, for *The Cherry Orchard*. "This is a case of where I responded very much to the director," he said. "Peter Hall felt that *The Cherry Orchard* is about illusions, so I tried to think of an abstract image. I used a graphic device and cold colours to give the sense of frost on blossom."

He first asks a director what he thinks meaningful about the play and whether he has a concept of his own, although these may prove to be too literary or too fussy for a poster. With help and inspiration from N.T. publicity director John Goodwin, Dickie sets to work with the technologically advanced tools of his trade. Like David Hockney (whose Hollywood paintings suggested the swimming pool motif) Richard Bird uses a computerized camera as one of his technical aids. He is thinking of buying a computer visualiser for his studio at home.

We walked by the gallery of his posters; the arresting image of Michelangelo's David beheaded, a scarlet knave winking from a playing card, the menacing fox's head for *Volpone*, the bold Indian silhouette for *Hiawatha*. I asked him which had been the most difficult poster to design.

"The most difficult director to work with was Harold Pinter," he replied. "Basically *No Man's Land* is duel of words with the audience left to draw its own conclusions. Harold simply said to me that he didn't want any visual statement at all."

Wide-shouldered mobster jacket with graphic check-on-check pattern, from £109. Schoolboy striped tie and plain cotton trousers. All from Gianfranco Ferré, 37b Brook Street, London W1.



Richard Bird with his National Theatre posters. He wears a big-sleeved sweatshirt cut in intersecting panels of fabric and suede, graphic check trousers and bolder check linen shirt. All from Gianfranco Ferré, 37b Brook Street, London W1. Dickie Bird's hair cut and styled by Ray Settle, new salon, 122a King's Road SW3. Photograph by CLIVE ARROWSMITH.

FASHFLASH

■ Spectator sportswear is joining active sports clothes as the fashion growth area of the Eighties. Last week I helped to judge a student fashion competition for sportswear that will be on display at Imtex, the International Men's and Boys' Wear Exhibition that opens next month.

Practical details like press studs or Velcro fastenings, sturdy zips and windproof cuffed sleeves were all incorporated by the students into their designs. Sailing, motor racing and rugby all produced lively variations on spectator sportswear, which mostly included a waterproof cover-up for our unsettled seasons.

■ Bjorn Borg is the latest sports star to come to the aid of the wardrobe. The one-time heart throb of the tennis groups will have his collection in major stores from St Valentine's Day. He makes a Leap Year appearance at Harrods on 29th February.

Casual sporty clothes are the key to his off-court style, with military blousons, casual button-down shirts, T-shirts and trousers - all in natural fibres

and in clear strong colours, with only a dash of Wimbledon white. The clothes, made by the Eiger Group in Borg's native Sweden, will jostle along the rails with the wares of other sports stars who have found a lucrative sideline.

■ With six months to go before the Olympic Games in Los Angeles, the race is already over for the sports clothing suppliers. Adidas is an official licensee and supplier. Arena will make both the swimsuits and the high fashion leopards for the rhythmic gymnastics - a new event for the Games. The British men's teams will be dressed off the track by Hepworths.

■ Sport was the key to men's clothes at Marks and Spencer's centenary show last week. Surfing shorts, boldly-striped cotton mix sweaters and pure cotton pleat-front trousers

should all put some action into the M & S family man. Even the tailored double-breasted navy blazer had a jaunty nautical look, teamed with white trousers and a striped shirt. But while the women's swimwear has now put the emphasis on covering up in a shaped one-piece, the men's swimming briefs - in African prints or sharp stripes - seemed briefer than ever.

■ At Next's show last week, it was women only, and fashion business as usual, with inter-related separates in pastel cottons, spiced with some earthy African colours. The big skirt is still big news at Next, worn with the square cut

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Benn, left right out

Tony Benn doesn't make every list. Despite more than 50 mentions in the text of Austin Mitchell's book, *Four Years in the Death of the Labour Party*, he is not listed in the index. Methuen, the publisher, appears at fault, but Mitchell is not lucky with his indexes. His researchers indexed another of his books, *Westminster Man*, so assiduously that they included Khan, Genghis, and Peep. Bo. The publisher struck these out and insisted on taking over the index for the latest book. Mitchell says it's a shame that Benn was omitted from the index since, "if he'd been included it might have done something for him."

Political punch

The 300 Group, the organization which aims to get more women into the House of Commons, is so well-mannered its supporters sometimes worry that it might not be suited to the rough-and-ready life of a political pressure group. These fears should now be groundless. For its fourth House of Commons debate on January 25, the group has chosen to discuss the GLC. The speakers are Frances Morell, Leader of the Inner London Education Authority and a staunch ally of Ken Livingstone, and Lady Porter, leader of Westminster Council, who would probably like to see the GLC go the way of the Austro-Hungarian Empire. One expects the debate to be, as the saying goes, lively.

BARRY FANTONI



"I'm delighted, so long as she doesn't wear her diamond rings when milking"

Current affairs

True Romances is looking for a new editor who must have a "good eye for fashion, beauty and current dialogue." What is current dialogue, I asked Else Powell, editor-in-chief of the company which publishes the magazine. That which is spoken by her potential readers, she said. Recently executives on *True Romances* were told that a lot of dialogue was currently going on about engagement rings for boys. This turned out to be true. Further investigation showed that more and more boys are flashing engagement rings as a sign to other boys that they have found true romance.

Queasy rider

A colleague encountering a motorcyclist struggling to swing a drunken leg over his machine suggested that he ought to walk home. "I can't do that," was the reply. "I need the bike to go to work in the morning. I'm a policeman." He fell off on the first bend out of the pub car park.

Clear as night

This rather scrambled item is from the December newsletter of the Association of Lloyd's Members: "Insurance being a litigious business whose it is difficult to decide who rammed whom in the middle of the night in a force-eight storm, it is not surprising that litigation is the normal course of business." In the same issue, the association hints that it may soon employ its own staff. The 1,400 members (subscription £50 a year) would probably welcome applicants with a good grasp of English.

• Barclaycard holders will welcome the invitation, accompanying this month's statements, to apply for a Masterloan of between £300 and £5,000. Whether applications get anywhere is another matter: the man handing the inquiries is a Mr Tite.

Badgered?

A reader who banks with NatWest received a pretty new cheque book, each cheque being decorated with a coloured picture of a bird or animal. By happy circumstance, the cheque that he subsequently made out to the Collector of Taxes carried a picture of that "blood sucking carnivore", the stoat.

Footnote

It irks the Ramblers' Association that its offices are in deepest Vauxhall, while Alan Maitland, the secretary, describes as "the last rural spot in England" and "constant reminder of the need to get out and about." However, the premises might one day be sited on a long-distance footpath: the association has just asked the Countryside Commission to designate a number of new routes, including a 160-mile Thames Walk, running from the Cotswolds to the House of Commons. Should the request be granted, Maitland would be able to see his fellow ramblers on the last leg of their journey from his office window. "It would really put us on the map," he says. PHS

Rates: why the wets must be capped

by John Vincent

ever be done, and certainly not for the first time.

One sign of this reactionary mood is all the talk of playing the House of Lords card against the ratepayer. (Is it not inconsistent for the guardians of "local democracy", as overspending has been hastily rechristened, to be so eager to overrule the elected council?) This is most unwise. People v. People is dangerous ground in these democratic times. If Lord Emsworth joins Mr Kinnock against Mrs Thatcher, he will find it hard going.

Any competent observer of British public life would draw only one conclusion from such a fuss that some inevitable minor reform for the general good was being enacted in a fair and proper way. Fair and proper, because it was in the manifesto in June, it was sketched in a White Paper in August, it was discussed in principle in December. The pace is seemly, there is no regedelman. The only scandal would be if the Government did not proceed with a measure on which it and Messrs Fyf, Gilmour, Prentice, Howell, Rippon and Heath had gone to the country in June. The ratepayers themselves, including business ratepayers, have not uttered a squeak against the bill.

If rate-capping, at least of prodigal sons, was a good cause in June, why has it become anathema to some now? Why has the verdict of our national democracy become but a feather in the scale against the supposedly sovereign rights of "local democracy" in however absurd a form?

The reason, on one level, is simple: the Tories think they can do without Mrs Thatcher, and without paying attention to the British people. The Tory-Thatcher coalition creaks. Last month, Tory backbenchers cast Thatcher aside like a worn glove in the vote on Austin Mitchell's Bill to streamline house purchase. The inherent immobility of the rich is surfacing. The Toryism of Mr Pym is returning to its ancient and solemn vow, that nothing should

beality is a collective irresponsibility. Altruistic greed is different from private greed: it takes more money.

The only thing to be said against the Rates Bill is that it drags leniency. It exempts small councils, frugal councils, average councils – and most councils are decently average. It says not a word about how councils should spend money, only that they should not spend too much. It does not interfere in local democracy. It has no anti-libertarian implications, the question of whether to have an additional gym mistress or a bus shelter less will still be decided by village Hampdens round the parish pump as of yore. If there is a libertarian spirit, it is the plight of the ordinary incapacity ratepayer under a high-rate council. That issue does not perturb the millionaire wets, living as he does in the country or well-run Westminster.

Local government in modern times has been entirely the creation and creature of Parliament. It exists to effect statutory purposes laid down by Parliament. Its legitimacy, its authority stem only from Parliament. Parliament meets half the cost of local government from parliamentary funds. If there is an issue about democracy, it is whether Parliament shall retain control over parliamentary expenditure. The enthusiasts for "local democracy" are in effect saying that parliamentary funds shall be spent without parliamentary control – as happened over Attlee's atom bomb. If Parliament shows no confidence in its own sovereignty, if it regards itself as a mere precepting authority upon which the local authorities can indent, then it must expect to have its authority bypassed in one field after another.

Libertarianism in local government has very little to do with rate-capping. Local authorities have enjoyed growing freedom since the war, as tightly controlled specific grants for particular services have been replaced by discretionary block grants. That quite recent development is not affected by the bill.

We face a typical reactionary revolt by special interests, against a progressive Bill intended to protect the less well-off and to encourage employment. This is Inner Cities policy. Mr Kinnock. This is a policy for jobs. Mr Steel. It is also a policy to benefit most local authorities to benefit most local authorities. Why should Leeds be down for the sake of Sheffield? Why should Kent and Wolverhampton go short for Islington?

Some short-sighted lovers of a quiet life might say that so long as four-fifths of our public expenditure is under control, what does it matter about the other fifth?

On the contrary, it matters exceedingly. The private sector cannot run a tight ship if the council down the road does the exact opposite; and if the private sector fails, where will we be when the oil runs out? It is a question of feeding 50 million mouths, with the odds against us.

This is a Tory rumpus. Labour and Liberal fury will be strictly for the headlines. Labour has little to gain from two years of relentless publicity about the unacceptable face of socialism. Their "Soviet republics" are at best, as in Sheffield, a way of going downhill humanely, at worst a sort of socialist version of the tax haven.

As for the Liberals, everyone knows they are firmly on both sides of the question, opposed to nothing except a sweet and simple Tory remedy. Their petulance leaves them exposed to the reproach that they have deserted the ratepayer in their hour of need.

In June we elected Mrs Thatcher armed with the cry of "The Sovereign People, Economy, and Reform".

"Local democracy" has lofty moral pretensions. When we see Mr Parker-Jones, the head of Buckinghamshire County Council, on television, he appears in a woodland glade, looking like a commercial for tweeds, Range Rovers, and integrity, as if to emphasize the uniqueness of the historic traditions he represents. But when he speaks, the words have an oddly modern and familiar ring: "I want more money" is the gist.

This, alas, is what people who run empires always say, be they vice-chancellors, generals, heads of nationalized industries, hospital boards. All cherish some unique ideal which can be realized only by some unique handout. The sum of their individual senses of responsibility

The author is professor of modern history at the University of Bristol.

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Anne Sofer

Political lessons in the local

I met a man in a pub one evening last week after we had both attended a meeting about a local issue. Neither of us knew the other's name. Neither of us got up to say what had been going at the meeting. I asked, "What's new after all?" Trades councils have been forming in the flesh of the TUC for years, but they have no real power. So what if they are run by a bunch of Trots? It's all reds under the bed" diversionary tactic.

There are several answers to this. First, the councils have a formal constitutional position within the TUC and cannot be brush aside. Second, the case on the constitutions of those local trade union branches that affiliate to them and are thus sustained by millions of ordinary trade union members who know very little about their activities.

Third, although Labour Party and trade union activists may have a pretty good idea of the councils' political complexion in various parts of the country, ordinary people do not. And when they read the pronouncements of the local trades council in their local paper, or attend meetings which it summons, they do not know they are listening to the views of political extremists whose own apathy (very often) has given a platform.

And fourth, in those parts of the country where left-wing councils are beginning to foster and defer to them, trade council members are being coopted on to committees and some of their activities are being funded at public expense.

There are two lessons here for the Government. The first, for Mr Patrick Jenkin, Environment Secretary, is that any body which is based on representatives of other bodies will be less accountable than one that is directly elected. Beware joint boards: streamlining the cities that way may take you very fast to where you don't want to go.

The second is for Mr Tom King, Employment Secretary. Trade union democracy, if it is to work at all, must be devised in a way that makes voting as convenient and as private as possible. Postal ballots have been proved to have a higher participation rate than any other. It was a sign of quite uncharacteristic softness on the part of Norman Tebbit, Mr King's predecessor, that this essential reform was abandoned. It should be put back in the Bill.

Wasn't it extraordinary, I said, in a tone (I hoped) more of detached observation than of political gassing, that the trade union movement locally was represented overwhelmingly by people who never got anywhere with the electorate as a whole? Yes, but – and a note of the author is SPD member of the GLC/ILEA for Camden, St Pancras North.

Roger Scruton

Now they tell me: I'm actually black

Readers have sometimes written to me asking where I stand on the issue of race. The question that they mean to ask could perhaps be posed in the following terms: are you a member of the white racial establishment, an upholder of white majority rule, advocating policies of cultural hegemony designed to deny the validity of black culture and black experience, and to sustain power structures from which black people are permanently excluded?

I can now provide these readers with an answer. The plain and simple truth of the matter is that I am black. I am also the defender of a minority culture. I was helped to discover these truths, as I was helped to find the correct terms in which to pose my readers' question, by an ILEA publication on *Race, Sex and Class: subtitled multi-ethnic education in schools*. This offers the following definition:

"Black" is used to refer to both Afro-Caribbean and Asian people. The term black emphasizes the common experience which both Afro-Caribbean and Asian people have of being victims of racism, and their common determination to oppose racism. Other groups who, together with the black communities, are usually referred to as "ethnic minorities" also suffer varying degrees of prejudice and discrimination. These include Chinese, Greek Cypriots, Turkish Cypriots, Turks, Vietnamese, Moroccans. In a similar way, though not always to the same extent, some white ethnic groups, such as the Irish and Jews, experience prejudice and discrimination. In this sense the term "black" in this paper, it is not the Authority's intention to exclude any minority group.

It was that last phrase which consoled me. I believe that what is, I suppose, the most persecuted of all minority groups in our society, the group most often discriminated against and excluded from the structures of power, the object of the most persistent and deepest prejudice on the part of those who do not belong to it – I mean the group of educated readers. Therefore, I am "black". Discovering this enabled me to read the ILEA's pamphlet in a changed frame of mind. Is it really true, as there seems to be, that blacks are systematically discriminated against, and excluded from positions of power in our system of education? Could someone belonging to my minority group, for example, ascend to a position of influence in the ILEA?

The answer is, quite No. For the ILEA is deeply hostile to education. No educated person would, when attempting to understand the effects of culture and ancestry upon educational achievement, classify "Afro-Caribbeans" and "Asians" together. We would recognize that such a classification merely abolishes a fundamental datum: the datum that, while members of the first class tend to do less well than

such a person, however, will – by virtue of his membership of the educated minority – meet with the most virulent hostility and prejudice from the uneducated. And when the uneducated control education, as seems to be the case in London, his chances of promotion are negligible.

Everybody's favourite wimple

Brian Horne



Glen Baxter: the surreal thing, selling well

schoolboy story by Ernest Protheroe, 1926. "One of the great texts," he says, taking it down, rubbing the blue lined boards, handing it across with a subtly ambiguous pride.

Baxter loves and mocks these phenomena. It is an aspect of the English talent for self-ridicule, itself part of the famous British Understatement Ruse. In Baxter's case it is often camp, though never merely that.

"I conclude that your boyhood was incredibly important to you."

"Well, everybody's had one. Except girls."

Baxter's graphic style is quaint and outdated, deliberately so, based on the drawings-with-captions which appeared in adolescent adventure books between, say, 1920 and the end of the traditional British Empire around 1960. His raw material is literary rather than cinematic, although spiritually it might be said to occupy an area where the *Boys' Own* paper and the Saturday morning pictures overlap.

He lives in the centre of a tower block development in south London, an oasis of half a dozen Victorian terraces saved from the bulldozers at the eleventh hour, almost painfully pretty in contrast to the stretches of cracking concrete.

"Are you middle class now?"

"I suppose I've got to be. I was born working class, but the moment you pick up a book and read it, you're middle class."

His father was a welder. He has a younger sister who is a secretary, and an elder brother "who's a detective".

"Why do we both chuckle slightly when you say detective?"

"I think it sounds romantic, doesn't it?" But Glen means romantic-inverted-commas. In the electronic age, traditional role-playing is a common source of amusement. The essence of Baxter's humour is the sending-up of types (he doesn't create individual characters) with a soft tease. In the final effect there is no cruelty. This is one of his weaknesses. Baxter describes his work as surreal.

"Are you a trained artist?"

"No, I'm a trained sex actually."

"You used the word surreal, I didn't."

"Well, I went to art college."

If surreal implies an element of danger and disturbance, then his work veers more to the whimsical than the surreal, although there are surreal moments. Its impulse is rooted in nostalgia and nostalgia is always about innocence, the attemp to return to it. But Baxter's method (as opposed to final result) involved the usual love/hate, sadomasochistic relationship of an artist with his raw materials. Innocence is resuscitated in the form, then destroyed in the content.

In his chubby, friendly, quirky manner, Glen is serving instant coffee down in the kitchen. It is a nice kitchen, in the basement but very light, with friendly wooden table, a kitchen full of childhood, nice objects, security symbols.

Embedded among the cookery books above the stove a title blazes forth: *From Fag To Hero*. A

was you can buy an orange at four in the morning.

"I like the idea of nightlife more than doing it. Actually going out – I've got done all that now."

In fact it was in New York that Baxter first aroused interest. He appeared at a little jazz gallery down in the Bowery called St Mark's. It was an old church.

"Has it been deconsecrated?"

"Oh, here we go," he expostulated quietly, despairingly.

"Not symbolism exactly, but of sexual surrogates. Have you thought of becoming more – this is a fine 1950s word – risqué? Actually the idea of becoming risqué is in itself rather tame."

"Oh, dear, there's so much done on sex. It isn't interesting."

"But do you see your subject matter developing in any way?"

"No, not really."

"That's a shame. If he were less whimsical, tougher, more disconcerting, more offensive, more subversive, which might mean less marketable . . . Let us take a closer look at the work. For example the drawing captioned *Young Hank entertained the boys with a fine display of smouldering*.

"A lot of people have seen that as sexual. At this time I was doing a lot of cowboy drawings. I wanted to suggest that these cowboys led terribly boring lives. They were people at a loss for sensation in this characterless prairie land. How to alleviate the boredom?"

"I got the idea of somebody standing there smouldering. It is a very interesting word. Smouldering with passion – what does it mean?"

"It seems to suggest frustration."

Glen agrees and adds: "I was also attracted by the impossibility of depicting smouldering."

Here is another from his King Solomon's Mines syndrome, *Sybil gassed. There on N'Bo's palm was tattoed a perfect street map of Dundee . . . Why Dundee?*

"Because, as a Scottish interviewer once pointed out, if it had been Glasgow it would've been less amusing."

"That's right. I had a little exhibition in

العدد 150



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DIALOGUE NOT DETENTE

The European Security Conference which opens in Stockholm today was originally intended to concentrate on confidence building measures to reduce the dangers of war in Europe. It has now acquired extra significance since it will provide an opportunity for a meeting between Mr Schultz and Mr Gromyko. That will be their first meeting since the heated exchanges in Madrid after the shooting down of the Korean airliner. It will also be the first high level East-West contact since the Soviet delegation left the Geneva negotiations in a huff. The Soviets discontinued with the negotiations because they failed to prevent NATO from its declared and considered policy of installing Cruise and Pershing missiles in Europe. Should the Geneva negotiations not reach any agreement on limiting nuclear arms.

It takes two to tango; and it now looks as though the two are ready for the music to start up again. So soon? Mr Gromyko's presence at Stockholm, and the meeting with Mr Schultz, suggests that the Soviet behaviour in Geneva was essentially one of playing to the gallery of European public opinion which, in spite of all the Soviet efforts at exhortation and manipulation, showed no sign of altering to undermine the determination of Western governments. The Soviet Union was thus left with no policy, and given the paralysis of leadership in Moscow with the ailing Mr Andropov, it was hardly in a position to enter into any creative negotiations without such a policy, particularly if the negotiations were to include some giving as well as taking.

It seems that Mr Reagan also now wants to do business with the Soviet block, even if that only means talking. He clearly feels that the United States now occupies the high ground vis-à-vis the Soviet Union; that he now has a psychological advantage over an adversary which is apparently leaderless (though it is not Mr Andropov who has to face an election in November); that an expansive defence budget will help to restore some sense of strategic parity, or even American superiority, which was thought to have been lost; and that the Reagan homilies on the Soviet threat have conditioned much American public opinion — or perhaps merely responded to its desire to see the Administration take the initiative in cutting the Soviet system down to size, as illustrated in a modest start by the popular operation in Grenada.

There are dangers here, both of substance and of style. We do not want to return to a period of so-called "detente" nebulous an idea though that was, in which some overarching abstract principle is invoked to justify a course in which normal diplomatic, military and financial prudence towards the Soviet Union is discarded, or at least dangerously discounted.

THE BILLS BEYOND THE BILL

Opposition to the Rates Bill need not be construed as condoning the present arrangements for local government; the case for municipal reform should not go by default because the bill is bad. Today, during the second reading debate there will be Members of Parliament concerned with great principles; others will be preoccupied, as they ought to be, with the detailed clauses of a measure which does not add up. But there may be others, as critical as the others, who will point out how little this bill changes in the engine of council spending and employment.

The boundaries of the state (defined as it must be to include local administration of education, town planning and the other public services) are left intact; issues of councils' functions and powers are not even up for discussion. There is much to condemn in the proposed apparatus of rate-capping; yet a stronger indictment of Mrs Thatcher's government could be that it has let slip the opportunity to review municipal provision. The government's energy and treasure are expended on what ultimately may be seen as the side issue of rates. Meanwhile, an entire arm of the welfare state escapes radical appraisal.

It is worth looking at the unwritten agenda. As long ago as 1979 the government was offered, by the Association of County Councils, a long list of council functions enshrined in statute which might be repealed: none of these would have torn the fabric of civilized life: every

externally unless it is brought firmly face to face each and every time with the consequences of such behaviour. That is not possible to achieve in a general concessionary diplomatic climate.

Secondly it must be recognized that the Soviet system, since its inception, has consistently used diplomacy to give it a breathing space when it wants to attract Western capital without letting up on the ideological struggle. It regards treaties with the West in the same way it regarded the Nazi-Soviet Pact — a temporary device with an enemy. It was thus unwise of Dr Kissinger as Secretary of State, to try to construct a whole web of relationships in which concessions here were to be traded off for gains there. Patience, conditionality, reciprocity and verification should not just be watchwords; they should be built like steel girders into the structure of any businesslike conversation with the Soviet Union; and each conversation should be confined to as narrow an issue as possible, to ensure that the conditions are met.

Is it possible for the Western democracies to unite on these concepts? The evidence is not encouraging. The unity of the Alliance has recently been vindicated by the determination to persist with the Pershing and Cruise decision but it cannot be argued that it had to undergo much of a test. Another precondition of any satisfactory business with the Soviet Union is that the Europeans come to recognize that they have common strategic interests with the United States, not just in Europe, but outside the NATO area. If Europe does not show more sympathy with American global preoccupations, its governments will rightly deserve less American sympathy in Europe.

We cannot thus allow dialogue with a hostile system to suggest that normalization has occurred. Is the Berlin Wall normal? Or the silencing of dissidents throughout the Soviet Block? Or the jamming of Western broadcasts? Or the Gulag Archipelago?

As long as the Soviet system remains unchanged it will not be possible to have a stable — let alone an intimate — relationship with it. It would be dangerous to pretend otherwise; dangerous for the Soviet leadership which would be tempted, once again, to take advantage of the short memories and the longing to be popular which has subverted the democratic ideal; dangerous to the democracies because it would encourage them to think that they no longer had to be vigilant at the source of security. In his speech yesterday President Reagan had a homely passage about two families meeting from opposing blocks. In future dealings with the Soviet block, he and his allies would do well to remember another homey Negro proverb: "Cheat me once: shame on you. Cheat me twice: shame on me".

We want dialogue, but not detente. In order to see that the former does not become the latter certain underlying aspects of East-West relations need to be borne constantly in mind. First it should be remembered that a regime which denies elementary freedoms to large sections of its own population, fails to respect its own laws and constitution, and violates the treaties it has signed, cannot be trusted. It does not play by the rules internally, and will not play by them

Radical solutions for Ulster

From Mr Jeffrey Peel

Sir, I refer to Professor Desmond Bowen's letter "Dual protectorate for Northern Ireland" (January 9).

Professor Bowen informed all readers that only two scenarios could possibly face Northern Ireland. The first, most likely, and most preferable (according to Professor Bowen) is the "dual protectorate" scenario. This, he suggests, will rescue the people of Ireland from the constitutional maelstrom that has thrown the country into turmoil. The second scenario is the provincial United Ireland.

It is strange that Professor Bowen has a monopoly on this information (although he has obviously made his ideas coherent in academic retreat at Queen's University).

Perhaps Professor Bowen bases his hypotheses on the fact that Protestant and Catholic people "fear one another". I, as a Protestant, can assure him that I for one do not fear the Catholic population of Ulster. Yet I do know that people living in border areas like Derry fear the IRA.

The "dual protectorate" scenario is an intellectual contrivance that plays into the hands of Gerry Adams and his ilk. By attempting to find solutions outside the existing constitutional framework Professor Bowen overlooks a very important point: people are dying in Northern Ireland. They are dying because Northern Ireland, as the most exposed limb of the United Kingdom democracy, is staunch in its determination to resist argument by Armalite.

It is particularly strange that Professor Bowen overlooks this point when only a matter of weeks ago a young lecturer from Queen's University was murdered by the IRA because of his unequivocal constitutional argument.

Furthermore, I am a little unsure why Professor Bowen thinks it should matter if the people in the Republic of Ireland would welcome a radical solution to the "Ulster problem". Perhaps he has misunderstood — after all the "Ulster problem" is largely IRA violence. A radical solution would be the eradication of the IRA.

Professor Bowen does not refer to the problems of Ulster when he uses the term "Ulster problem". He sees Ulster as an unruly mess that irritates his academic notions. Perhaps he should have spoken to Edgar Graham.

Yours faithfully,
JEFFREY PEEL,
18 Barley Hill,
Lisburn, Co. Antrim,
Northern Ireland.
January 10.

Aid strategy changes

From Dr Paul Keleman and Ms Hilary Nelson

Sir, The famine in Eritrea and northern Ethiopia will not be overcome merely by an increase in external aid as Dr Geoffrey Rowell's letter (January 14) suggests. There also has to be a change in western

reality recently.

We cannot thus allow dialogue with a hostile system to suggest that normalization has occurred. Is the Berlin Wall normal? Or the silencing of dissidents throughout the Soviet Block? Or the jamming of Western broadcasts? Or the Gulag Archipelago?

As long as the Soviet system remains unchanged it will not be possible to have a stable — let alone an intimate — relationship with it. It would be dangerous to pretend otherwise; dangerous for the Soviet leadership which would be tempted, once again, to take advantage of the short memories and the longing to be popular which has subverted the democratic ideal; dangerous to the democracies because it would encourage them to think that they no longer had to be vigilant at the source of security. In his speech yesterday President Reagan had a homely passage about two families meeting from opposing blocks. In future dealings with the Soviet block, he and his allies would do well to remember another homey Negro proverb: "Cheat me once: shame on you. Cheat me twice: shame on me".

We want dialogue, but not detente. In order to see that the former does not become the latter certain underlying aspects of East-West relations need to be borne constantly in mind. First it should be remembered that a regime which denies elementary freedoms to large sections of its own population, fails to respect its own laws and constitution, and violates the treaties it has signed, cannot be trusted. It does not play by the rules internally, and will not play by them

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A leading British role in arms talks

From Mr Tim Rathbone, MP for Lewes (Conservative)

Sir, The meetings this week in Stockholm on confidence building and disarmament in Europe offer the superpowers the first opportunity to restart constructive nuclear disarmament talks since the Geneva talks broke down.

An successful return to the conference table must not be described or seen as a "defeat" for either country or weakness on either side; rather it must be approached as a reasonable exercise of responsibility on both sides, responding positively to the needs for resumed detente and further arms reductions and limitations. I believe that Britain has a special part to play.

To restart talks Britain should press for the relocation of talks away from Geneva to some new town so as to provide a visible and clear new start, quite separate from those talks which Russia left so precipitously such a short time ago. I wonder whether there would be value in picking a town in Japan, where nuclear armaments were used for the first time and hopefully the last time nearly 40 years ago.

To give relaunched talks the maximum new momentum towards success it is certainly worth while considering restructuring them to embrace all European missile talks and all nuclear weapons so that new negotiations could address the whole problem, not just bits of it. As a nuclear power within Nato Britain can and should take the initiative in the first time and hopefully the last time nearly 40 years ago.

Having made reasonably accurate identifications of all of the parts of the polyglot nuclear arsenal, the new conference could consider a limited interim agreement to scale down the numbers of launchers and limit the number of warheads on each side.

Such an interim agreement could break the present logjam and would provide the basis for a later, more comprehensive treaty which is the treaty, and the agreement, we all want.

When arranging these new talks it will be important not to forget the

need to resume talks about control of conventional arms, those talks in Vienna for which Russia has refused to set, so far, a restart date. And the control of chemical warfare and of military competition in space must also be firmly on the international agenda; these subjects are at least as important as the de-escalation of nuclear weapons.

In addition to such formal disarmament and arms-control talks I believe that the West should maintain a very open door and encourage properly prepared, genuine summit talks, most particularly between the superpowers, just as soon as Mr Andropov is better for a new leader is appointed and as soon as the political atmosphere of the electioneering year in the United States allows.

Such a summit could provide a format and a discipline for future summits on a regular basis (say every year or so) at which genuinely informal consultations could take place without expectations of immediately achieved agreements. Rather their aim would be gradually to build better understanding of the differences which exist between East and West and establish a better base from which to overcome those differences. Britain could be the catalyst.

We live in a worrying nuclear age with worrying nuclear knowledge. As with all knowledge, that knowledge is irreversible. We have to live with its consequences. But we must influence those consequences beneficially in any way we can.

The most important influence is to work to get rid of nuclear weapons on both sides, in such a way that dangerous destabilization is avoided as balanced scaling down of these terrible weapons is effected and non-proliferation agreements are struck.

British experience and British style can contribute to that influence and Britain can be a prime beneficiary of its success.

Yours very sincerely,
TIM RATHBONE,
House of Commons.
January 14.

Church, morality and politics

From the Reverend Dr Colin P. Thompson

Sir, Even in a leading article on the Roman Catholic Church and the British Council of Churches (January 9) you manage to slip in your favorite falsehood.

You suggest the former would find the latter more congenial if, among other things, the result were "a much more theologically oriented, and much less politically oriented, body"; this presumably because the British Council of Churches sometimes speaks on issues which may have political content (rather as the Roman Catholic Church in Poland does).

Sir, issues of poverty and hunger, peace and armaments, work and unemployment, human rights, racial, religious and ideological persecution and many others are not in the first place political issues for Christians, but moral issues of the most searching kind, some of which involve our very survival as a race.

They arise directly out of a theological understanding of the nature and dignity of human beings, the purpose of human life, our use and misuse of the resources of creation and God's purpose for his creation.

What is offensive to the will of God is not made less so by regarding politics as outside his concern. That position I have always thought of as a surreptitious form of atheism. It implies that God has no part in a whole area of human experience, is happy to let it run itself and won't mind if his purposes are forgotten when that is more convenient for us.

It's not theologians playing with politics that's the problem, but rather some politicians who pay little heed to the morality of their policies and who think that the prophetic and priestly ministry of the Church must never be made flesh, lest his dwelling among us quietly but insistently call us to a better way and a brighter vision.

Yours faithfully,
COLIN P. THOMPSON,
The University of Sussex,
Meeting House,
Falmer,
Sussex.
January 9.

Falkland archives

From Dr Peter J. Beck

Sir, Recent revelations about British policy towards the Falklands in 1953 cannot disguise the fact that a considerable amount of archival material remains closed not only for 1953 but also for those years beyond the 30-year limit.

Foreign Office archives for 1940, if they were open, would presumably show that Argentina floated the idea of buying the Falklands in 1940. It is not clear whether this was rejected. However, these files are subject to extended closure, and, as I have shown in a recent article (in the *Bulletin of Latin American Research*, vol 2:2, May 1983), one has to go to the American archives in Washington to throw any light upon this episode.

The proposal originated in Buenos Aires during December 1940, and was passed on to London by Lord Willingdon, head of the British Economic Mission in Argentina. As Willingdon predicted, the British Government was "too stubborn to consider it seriously", but readers might like to speculate about the proposal for a lease-back solution based upon a 100-year lease at a rent of some five pesos per year. Compare this to the costs of the Falklands Falklands policy.

This example illustrates that a lease-back solution has a relatively long pedigree, while emphasising the extent of the archival closures on the Falklands dispute. There is a need to improve the effectiveness of school education, in line as it is with what an increasing number of teachers and employers have been advocating, it deserves warm support. It certainly demands an intelligent and informed response.

You draw attention to "many anxious parents worried by the failure of the state system to provide the skills and learning they wish their progeny to acquire." But this itself is part of the problem and it does not apply only to the state system.

What anxious parents usually want are O and A-level passes and yet it is those examinations which tend to bring about "clutter" in the curriculum, at any rate for the majority of the pupils for whom, because of the design of the examination, O and A-level passes are open to reach.

As to the quality of teaching, the ideas which Sir Keith appears to be advocating can themselves improve the quality of teaching by giving teachers significantly changed goals and a sense in which many more pupils will be likely to feel that the educational process is boosting their self-confidence rather than dooming them to failure. But the likelihood of that happening will depend to some extent on the understanding of parents and employers and upon their support and co-operation.

Yours faithfully,
FRANK STONER, Director,
Centre for the Study of
Comprehensive Schools,
University of York,
Heslington,
York.
January 6.

Teachers up to date

From Mr Frank Stoner

Sir, If I lead your reading article on the new examination proposals (January 7) ungenerous. Sir Keith Joseph's admission that he had underestimated the difficulty of raising standards might more properly have been described as a refreshing example of honesty than as a parade of his own shortcomings.

If his statement represents a determined attempt to grapple with the complex problem of improving the effectiveness of school education, in line as it is with what an increasing number of teachers and employers have been advocating, it deserves warm support. It certainly demands an intelligent and informed response.

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FRANK STONER, Director,
Centre for the Study of
Comprehensive Schools,
University of York,
Heslington.
January 6.

London's future

From the Leader of Wandsworth Council

Sir, The letter from G. Alderman and others (December 21) proposing a royal commission on London's future shows how far removed distinguished academics can be from the realities of local government. Presumably they recall a royal commission spawned the GLC.

As David Walker points out on another page in the same issue, even in a borough like Camden very few people know much about their local council. Voters are even more hazy about the GLC and precisely what it does, and even fewer turn out to vote at GLC elections. It is ridiculous to talk of the GLC as a "genuine local democracy" in these circumstances.

The sad truth is that the GLC and the metropolitan councils have never had enough real work to do — the vast bulk of expenditure on "sharp end" local services is with the boroughs. This explains their expansion into areas such as Northern Ireland politics and international disarmament issues.

My canvassing in the general elections in May led me to believe the Conservative manifesto commitment to abolish the GLC far from being insignificant in London, was indeed a major determinant of voting patterns. The swings in London and their difference from the rest of the country bear this out very clearly.

It is the same pilgrimage, is it not? Yours faithfully,
ELSIE CHAMBERLAIN,
Chairman of Council,
Congregational Federation,
12 Ashly Road,
Taunton, Somerset.
January 10.

industrial ratepayers (who are not enfranchised), simply cannot wait for further delay of a royal commission while the current excessive spending burden of both the GLC and the ILEA continues unabated. A mandate having been given to the Government, and the majority of boroughs being eager to take on the GLC's functions either directly or through joint boards, no delay in implementation is justified.

The strategic and transport planning matters which the writers feel concerned about have always been subject to ultimate determination by the relevant Secretary of State. The White

THE TIMES

FINANCE AND INDUSTRY
Executive Editor Kenneth FleetRecord retail spending
may have to be checked

The Chancellor, Mr Nigel Lawson, is fond of complaining that newspapers prefer forecasting a gloomy economic future to reporting good news about the present. Yesterday's figures will reinforce his view that things have been going rather well: a new record for the equity market (and a breather for sterling) plus confirmation that Britain's shopkeepers had their busiest Christmas on record.

Retail sales topped £10 billion last month (bombs, actual and threatened, diverted money into provincial and local shops rather than persuading shoppers to stay at home). Even after allowing for inflation and the season, sales appear to have been a remarkable 6½ per cent higher than recorded the previous year. In America, which so far has led the world economic recovery, sales by contrast actually slowed last month.

Yet the comparison is not entirely comforting. American production has grown fast and is still growing. Britain's industrialists are still struggling to recover lost markets. While we have been buying nearly 20 per cent more than we did in 1979 when Mrs Thatcher's Government took office, we, as a nation, are producing very little more than we did five years ago. There are some grounds for believing that production and employment will now begin to show real gains. That said, the source of the spending flood that has sustained the recovery so far should cause some concern.

The Treasury's version of events is that the Government's success in curbing inflation has reduced the share of income we feel obliged to save, and so released spending power in an entirely healthy way. Rising share prices have given another satisfactory boost to personal wealth. True, the increase in spending power was concentrated in the hands of a declining number of people in work; but the Treasury believes that here, too, things are getting better. On this view of income trends, the consumer boom will now gently subside and has the chance to take over the torch of economic recovery from sated consumers.

There is another much less rosy interpretation of our consumer-led recovery. Consumers have been most strongly influenced by the ease with which they could borrow from the banks and building

RETAIL SALES

| | Sales by volume seasonally adjusted (1979=100) | Sales by value (not adjusted) % change over last quarter |
|-----------|--|--|
| 1982 Q4 | 110.7 | +10 |
| 1983 Q1 | 111.1 | +8 |
| Q2 | 113.6 | +8 |
| Q3 | 114.9 | +10 |
| Q4 (p) | 117.4 | +10 |
| 1982 Dec | 112.2 | +12 |
| 1983 Sept | 117.3 | +11 |
| Oct | 115.2 | +10 |
| Nov | 117.0 | +10 |
| Dec (p) | 119.4 | +11 |

(p) provisional
Source: Department of Trade and Industry

societies (aided by mortgage tax relief which cut effective interest rates). They will go on doing so at a rate that will again threaten the Government's monetary policy.

While the Government has been publicly wrestling with its own spending and borrowing, the budget has been in the limelight and monetary targets discreetly in shadow. Hardly a week goes by without publication of yet more figures suggesting government spending is higher than planned (another explanation which the Treasury does not like to acknowledge is to why the recovery has been stronger than forecast). The latest such figures have come in evidence from Mr Terry Ward, adviser to the Treasury Select Committee of the House of Commons. They suggest more slippage in this year's budgeted figures and that battle is by no means ended. A new battle, over monetary policy, may be just beginning.

The latest figures for bank lending are disturbing. If industry is now to crank itself up to recovery speed, it needs to borrow; if consumers go on borrowing heavily, there will be no room for industry within the Government's already stretched monetary targets. Early soundings from the January sales suggest that the spending spree is proceeding apace. The Government does not want to raise interest rates, particularly if sterling continues to rise against the dollar as that would remove any international reason for doing so. But the Chancellor may soon be faced with a real domestic dilemma.

Gower overtaken by events

Professor Laurence "Jim" Gower has opted for self-regulation as the best way of controlling abuses and fraud in the investment industry in the final version of his report on investor protection, which is due to be published tomorrow. The report, commissioned by the Government, will recommend a legal framework for a network of new self-regulatory bodies which would then be monitored by the Department of Trade and Industry.

It comes out against an all-embracing government control body on the lines of the American Securities and Exchange Commission, unless self-regulation does not get off the ground. Anyone dealing in or offering investments would logically be obliged to belong to, and be licensed by, the appropriate self-regulatory authority or, in default of that, be licensed directly by the Department of Trade and Industry.

The self-regulating bodies would be coordinated through the City's existing Council for the Securities Industry, which

NEWS IN BRIEF

'Names' to get missing £29m back

Minet Holdings, one of the insurance broking firms at the centre of investigations in the wake of the scandals at Lloyd's of London, has unlocked £40m (£29m) of funds which went missing from its PCW and WMD underwriting syndicates.

The funds, which are locked up in a number of Gibraltar companies, will be transferred to Britain and eventually to the 1800 "names" who backed the syndicates, after an agreement with the Supreme Court of Gibraltar.

Minet said yesterday that it is urgently attempting to arrive at an agreed basis for the distribution of the assets.

The company has set aside £1.2m to cover the costs of tracking down the funds which went missing at its syndicates after the Lloyd's scandals.

Smith Brothers, one of London's two quoted stock jobbers, received both Government and shareholders' clearance yesterday for the £6.5m link with London's best known bullion house, N. M. Rothschild.

Mrs Maya Lear, widow of the Lear Fan inventor, Mr William Lear, is a non-executive member of the Lear Fan board, not the chief executive of the company as stated in yesterday's issue of *The Times*. Although the company made 91 workers redundant last week and is awaiting certification agreements from the United States authorities which are holding up production of the carbon fibre out of money.

Hawley buys St Louis lawn-spray business

By Jonathan Clare

Mr Michael Ashcroft's acquisitive Hawley Group has made another foray into the US by buying a St Louis-based lawn spraying company for \$15m (£10.7m). Mr David Hammond, a Hawley director, agreed that lawn treatment was an unusual industry by English standards but said that the company, Ever-Green Lawns, fitted Hawley's investment criteria.

He said: "We have concentrated on services, especially those which provide recurring

income and where the industry is fragmented."

Yesterday, Hawley also announced the acquisition of a small hospital maintenance and management business, Harry A Stroh Associates, for \$1.5m.

In its field, Ever-Green is the third largest company in the US, in a business worth \$1.100m, and it operates in four large urban areas around St Louis, Missouri.

Last year Ever-Green made profits of \$2.3m.

Exports key factor for developing nations

Hopeful forecast on debt crisis

By Our Banking Correspondent

Restoring creditworthiness of the heavily indebted developing countries will take a long time and depends crucially on a favourable world environment, according to a new study by the *Amex Bank Review*.

But there is a fair chance that the debt burdens can be substantially eased over the next few years and the improvement achieved by each country will depend largely on the rate of growth of exports and the trade surplus or deficit recorded.

In contrast to some previous studies of the debt crisis, the Amex paper suggests that continued net transfers of resources (a net capital inflow greater than interest payments) to developing countries from the rest of the world are not a precondition of resumed economic growth.

The author, Mr John Calverley, says: "Growth is perfectly possible without such a transfer, though for developing countries to reach their maximum potential growth rate a transfer is desirable. It is also unrealistic to expect a reduction in the level of debt outstanding (which would mean a net capital outflow greater than interest payments)."

The study argues that, despite the sharp build-up of debt during the 1970s and early 1980s, the net inflow to developing countries, after taking account of their interest payments, was comparatively modest.

Furthermore, much of the borrowing was undertaken to compensate for worsening in the terms of trade, especially oil payments, and had relatively little impact on the levels of

Pound strengthens as share prices continue record run

By Peter Wilson-Smith, Banking Correspondent

Shares rose to record levels on the Stock Exchange and the pound firmed against leading currencies on the foreign exchange markets yesterday.

The stock market was in a confident mood about the prospects for the economy, shrugging off lingering concern about domestic interest rates.

The FT Index of 30 leading shares closed at a record high of 813.7, up 5.6 points on the day.

However, the gills market was in a more cautious mood and government securities closed virtually unchanged.

The pound came in for some attention on the foreign exchanges, as the dollar met further profit-taking after its sharp fall before the weekend.

Sterling was helped by the record rise in December retail sales because of the implications which high consumer borrowing could have for money supply and interest rates.

Dealers said the possibility of higher British interest rates and its strong balance of payments had led to talk of sterling's attractions, after the reaction against the dollar, although there were no concrete signs of sharp flows into sterling.

The dollar recovered from its morning lowpoint after falling to about DM 2.7955 against the Deutsche mark it closed up 1.25 cents at \$1.4205.

Against the Deutsche mark it

ended the day up 1.25 pence at DM 3.975.

The pound's trade-weighted value, which is calculated before the market's close, was up 0.1 at 82.2.

Sterling was helped by the

record rise in December retail sales because of the implications which high consumer borrowing could have for money supply and interest rates.

There was growing optimism in the market that a slowdown in economic activity would mean that US interest rates were now unlikely to go higher and the recent US money supply figures, showing that all three measures of money supply ended last year within their target ranges, lent support to this view.

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morning lowpoint after falling to about DM 2.7955 against the Deutsche mark, but after

climbing back up to DM

2.8090, it met further selling after the New York markets opened.

It ended the day down 1.65 pence at DM 2.7955 still overshadowed by last Friday's economic news which suggested that the American economy was beginning to slow.

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One dealer said: "Everybody believes the dollar is overvalued and thinks it will weaken sometime this year." It would be premature to say the turning point had come, he said.

However, the dollar's recent

setbacks have induced greater

caution in the markets over

pushing the dollar ahead and

dealers agreed that the markets would want firm economic

evidence to support a further

rise in the dollar.

The dollar received a temporary

boost yesterday from the

announcement of US business

inventories, which were slightly

higher, but the main US

economic indicators on which

markets will be focusing this

week are housing starts and

preliminary fourth quarter gross

national product, which is due

out at the end of the week.

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be premature to say the turning

INVESTORS' NOTEBOOK • edited by Michael Prest

SGB profits fall 36% but trend is brighter

After a difficult first half, the full year figures from SGB Groups, which show pretax profits down for the year to September 28 by 36 per cent to £7.24m, are a step in the right direction. But they also underline how tough the going will be in both domestic and overseas markets during the present financial year.

Most of the reversal in the construction and scaffolding group's fortunes occurred abroad. Trading profits from the Middle East, a key market, fell to a third of those earned in 1983/4.

The chief culprit was Saudi Arabia, where SGB has six depots, but where demand fell by 60 per cent. Exports to the region were as badly affected as local operations.

SGB's businesses in Australia, Canada and Denmark went into losses but the group still managed to make money in the Middle East.

The sharp deterioration of the Australian market was made more serious by management reporting delays, which meant that counter measures were implemented later than they should have been. Recovery in these markets has been slow.

Nevertheless, the core of the group's business is in Britain, where profits more or less matched those of the previous year. Their composition, however, changed. While plant hire and sale rose, contract work fell.

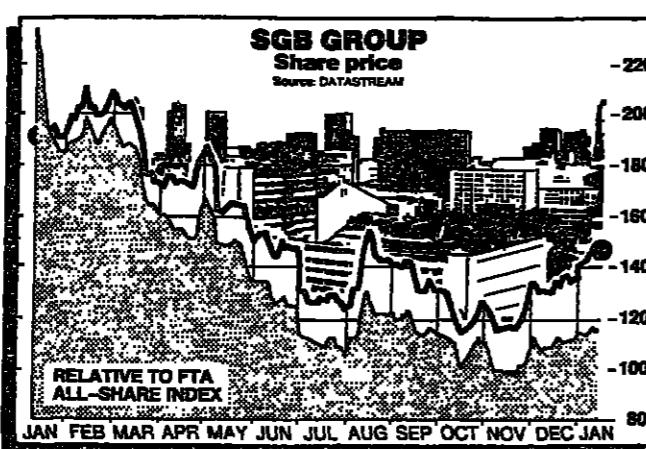
Margins have shrunk within the crucial scaffolding business, which has suffered from intense competition, especially for contracted work.

Other sectors, however, began to benefit from the economic recovery.

HSS, the hire chain, increased trading profits from about £2m to £2.25m, and Youngman, which supplies ladders, and Peter Cox, which specializes in renovations, both reported higher profits.

SGB may also breathe a sigh of relief now that its ill-starred venture into timesharing has almost been concluded. Wrote off during the year totalled £500,000, but it is hoped that the chapter is closed.

The measure of last year's difficulties was that turnover rose by 4 per cent to £160m, while profits tumbled. Earnings per share were down by a third to 9.7 pence, while the net dividend for the year is unchanged at 5.6p. The shares are still below asset value at 150p, up 4p on the day, and the 5.3 per cent yield seems to take account of a revival of profits this year to about 100p.

**AGB Research**

AGB Research, the largest market research company in Europe and Australasia and the eighth largest in the crucial US market, posted a sharp increase in half-year profits from £2.4m to £3m.

This year should show even more growth in the second half with its seasonally better turnover, an increasing contribution from the US interests, and in improving outlook for the magazine publishing side.

The profits are underpinned by the large number of syndicated market research contracts – for example for television viewing figures – which often run for three or five years.

In the US National Family Opinion, AGB's biggest acquisition, bought in 1982, is performing strongly after rationalization and the introduction of AGB's techniques.

The success of NFO encouraged AGB to buy Information & Analysis Inc last December, which will take it into US radio and television research, a market worth \$170m (£121m) a year. A pilot operation supported by several networks and advertising agencies will start this year in Boston.

Growth is likely to be organic in all the areas around the world where the group operates although small acquisitions have not been ruled out. This means AGB is less likely to ask its shareholders for cash – a relief after four rights issues in five years.

The acquisitions – particularly the final instalment on NFO – have left little from the £1.4m raised last time. Interest made only an insignificant contribution to profits. However, the company is likely to end the year without any borrowings.

Full year profits of at least £9m are expected. Even at that level the company is highly rated with a prospective fully-taxed price-earnings ratio of close to 25.

Meanwhile, the interim dividend has been increased from 2.8p to 3.3p on a higher capital base. The rating is justified by the strong profits record and the quality of earnings. A bidder prepared to offer the right price might not be disappointed.

Cray Electronics

A decision to concentrate on high technology businesses and move away from a dependence on traditional manufacturing is paying handsome dividends for Cray Electronics.

For a start the margins in the new areas are much higher than those achieved before. The markets for communications and subsea technology equipment also provide the backdrop for Cray's remarkable year-on-year growth of 25 per cent for each of the past five years, often from a declining turnover.

True to form Cray has produced a 25 per cent rise in pretax profits to £570,000 in the six months to October 30 compared with the same period last year. This time, however, the improvement came from a turnover which rose by 27 per cent to £10.7m.

The continuing attempt to reduce involvement in the traditional engineering business led to extraordinary charges of £178,000.

Despite the strength of the results and a board recommendation to increase the net interim dividend from 0.435p to 0.566p the shares fell by 4p yesterday to 156p, which leaves them on a demanding rating of more than 37 times earnings, way ahead of the sector average.

Evode profits soar 44%

By Jeremy Warner

Acquisitions, rationalization and improved demand helped Evode Group, the Evo-Stik adhesives, sealants and roofing company, to achieve a 44 per cent leap in pretax profits in the year to the end of September.

On sales 8 per cent higher at £46.2m, pretax profits rose from £1.8m to 2.5m. Mr Andrew Simon, the chairman, says that levels of trading during the first quarter of the current year have been as planned and he believes the company will make further progress for the year as a whole.

Evode has spent just under £1m in the past few months on three small acquisitions. The

biggest of these is Highflow,

which makes high performance sealants and adhesives. The revenue costs of moving the production of existing Evode Group manufacturing facilities will mean they are unlikely to make any significant contribution to profits this year. But the group expects substantial benefits from the integration thereafter.

The group continues to look for further acquisitions in areas related to its product range although there is nothing imminent. A final dividend of 1.28p is being proposed, raising the total for the year from 2.03p to 2.4396p.

Evode's foreign exchange reserves stood at £47.55 billion (£3.1 billion) in December.

The country secured the loan to help overcome a large balance of payments deficit.

However, domestic oil production rose from 20.8 million tonnes last year to an estimated 26 million tonnes for the year to March.

COMMODITIES**LONDON COMMODITY PRICES**

Rubber in £s per tonne

Coffee, cocoa, sugar in pounds per tonne

Gas-oil in £s per metric ton.

RUBBER

Feb 1983

Mar 1983

Apr 1983

Oct/Dec 1983

Jan 1984

Feb 1984

Oct/Feb 1984

Mar 1985

Oct/Feb 1985

Mar 1986

Oct/Feb 1986

Mar 1987

Oct/Feb 1987

Mar 1988

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Mar 2034

Chips from the factory desktop micro

By Frank Brown

A survey conducted by the magazine *Engineering Computers* has found that of the 15,000 computers used for design or manufacturing in British factories, 62 per cent were desktop microcomputers, with Commodore topping the list.

The engineering industry plans to spend £500m on computers for these purposes this year, with desktop machines the favourites.

Thus, in addition to carrying out accountancy, training, teaching, stock keeping, office and secretarial work, maintaining records and banks of useful information, producing management reports and doing a thousand and one other useful chores – and playing games – these versatile machines are boosting productivity in British industry.

Now they are even being used to design microchips, the devices that spawned them in the first place. Engineers at the AMI development laboratories in Swindon, Wiltshire, have developed a computer program which runs on a personal computer and greatly speeds up the design of special-purpose chips for microprocessor-based electronic equipment.

The program costs £500 and runs on an ACT Sirius computer. It enables an electronic design engineer to develop a chip for any specific purpose he may require, simply by entering appropriate codes via the computer keyboard. The codes correspond to circuit patterns, called cells,

which perform different logic functions, and to interconnect functions that interlink the various cells selected, so that they will perform the required task in the most efficient way.

Once the design objective has been achieved, this can be in a matter of hours – compared with the weeks or even months required hitherto – the program automatically tests the design to ensure that the semi-custom chip (as it is called) will work first time when it comes off the production line.

After the test procedure has been successfully completed, usually in a matter of minutes, the resultant chip design is recorded on a floppy disk and sent to AMI, who produce sample quantities within a few days.

The whole process is economic for production requirements as low as 5000 devices a year and, in some cases, as few as 1000 a year. Production devices are made at AMI's plant in Graz, Austria.

Semi-custom chips have a number of advantages for both equipment manufacturers and users alike. They carry out functions that would otherwise require the use of several standard chips, and therefore reduce the number of components within the equipment for which they were designed.

Fewer components make more space for further micro-electronic circuitry and therefore require the use of several standard chips, and therefore reduce the number of components within the equipment for which they were designed.

Otherwise those valuable initial new product sales will be lost to foreign manufacturers.

components, consumes less electric power and is more reliable. The simpler construction means shorter production time and lower production costs.

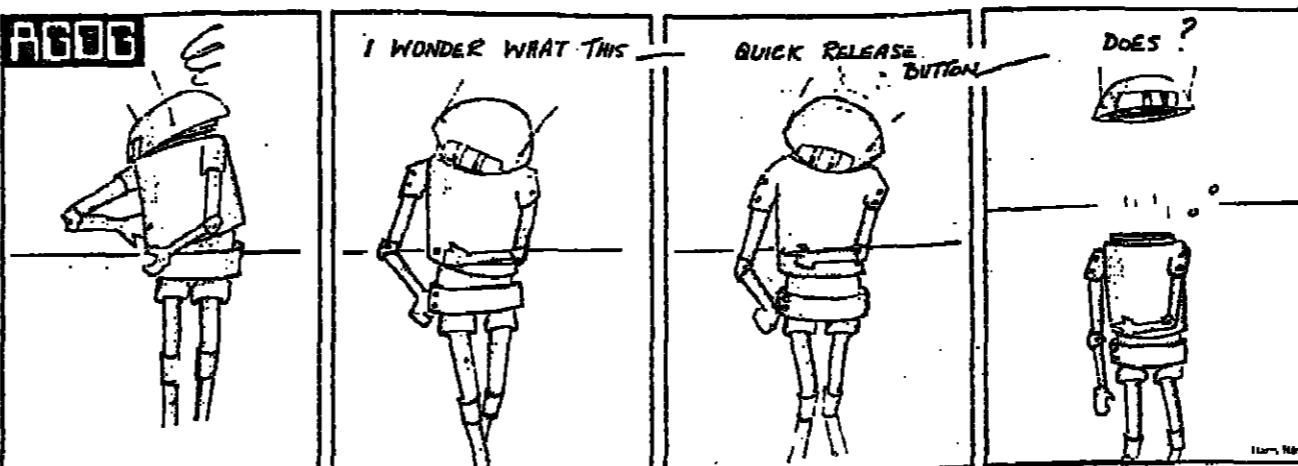
More important, however, is the dramatic reduction in overall product design time from the initial idea to the launch of the first quantity production models on the market.

One of the inexorable trends in electronic and computer equipment is that with developments in the various high technologies increasing at a snowballing rate, the marketable life of products is continually getting shorter. A new product launched today will be superseded within two years by an even more cost-effective model incorporating the latest developments in chip technology.

Furthermore, the manufacturers who are on the market generally get the most sales, and therefore the greatest return on their product design investment.

Thus in order to survive in the long term, particularly in international markets, British manufacturers of electronic equipment must keep product design time to a minimum, and therefore must adopt computer-based design methods, custom chip design methods and other cost and time-saving techniques.

Otherwise those valuable initial new product sales will be lost to foreign manufacturers.



Fujitsu moves into UK

By Roger Woolnough

Fujitsu, the computer company which outshines IBM in Japan, is about to enter the British market, writes Roger Woolnough. At the Which Computer? Show in Birmingham today it will be unveiling a range of 8-bit and 16-bit microcomputers, and is aiming to recruit a national network of about 50 dealers to handle the volume shipments which will start from Japan in eight weeks. "Current shipments from our own production line in Tokyo exceed 40,000 micros per month," says Roger Handley, Fujitsu UK sales manager.

Fujitsu is making its British entry with four "starter" systems. The FM7 8-bit Graphics Computer can be expanded to the FM7 Professional Personal Computer. The 16-bit FM16S High Performance Computer has a standard 128K memory, expandable to 1 megabyte. Top of the line is the FM16S Professional Multi-user Computer, which can be used by 32 people at the same time.

At the Which Computer? Show, Fujitsu has a stand next to IBM. The company says it has no accident.

staggering compound annual growth rate of almost 70 per cent. United States shipments of modems by 1987 will exceed \$330m in value.

Deutsche pinpoints several reasons for the boom: personal computers are being employed increasingly as terminals, the use of portable computers is growing, and the prices of lower-speed modems are falling.

Stephen Johnson

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Norway's own computer manufacturer, Norsk Data, has introduced a stand-alone device that can link virtually any mainframe, minicomputer or micro.

The ND-1000 communications controller is a powerful 16-bit microcomputer in its own right, but as well as providing local office processing, under software control it allows up to 25 micros, VDUs and/or printers simultaneous access to between one and four remote computers.

Any microcomputer with the CP/M or MSDOS operating system can be attached to the controller, and in this way can access any of the host mainframes.

The first site to use the new concept is East Midlands Gas, where Norsk Data is providing remote and distributed computer-controlled printing facilities.

The computer industry has come up with software that talks. It is called Speachware – not a misspelling, but a play on the name of the company which developed it, Peachtree Software International.

According to Datasquest, the Silicon Valley market research company, personal computer modem sales in the US will grow from 151,000 units in 1982 to almost 4.2 million units in 1987 – a

staggering compound annual growth rate of almost 70 per cent.

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Paris dials into the future

By Donker de Marillac

The Ile-de-France is the area that contains Paris and its dormitory towns like Boulogne (not "sur Mer") and Envy. For a few thousand of its inhabitants Christmas 1983 was not unique, not only the lights in the tree, but the small screen and keyboard supplied free by the French PTT and known as a "Minitel". By Christmas 1986 they will have been joined by three million other telephone subscribers in the area.

The Minitel is, to begin with, the business end of an electronic telephone directory. It is already being used as such by 70,000 farms, families and businesses in Brittany, where the whole experiment started about three years ago. But it is also a further step in the imaginative (and costly) path that has led France in 15 years from an also-ran position to compete with the leaders in world telecommunications.

This path included the

institution, in 1978, of a national packet-switched network known as Transpac, with more than 10,000 subscribers to date, mainly computer-equipped businesses and administrative offices.

They are potentially important to Minitel users because the little household screen can also be used as a gateway into any videotex service. Many of the thousands of businesses connected to Transpac are consequently already equipping themselves with the software necessary to put this potential mass market directly in touch with their own corporate computers. Banks, mail order houses and administrations are leading the way but the commercial message is beginning to spread to others.

This message is simple: in the early 1990s it is likely that up to the area is one of those already on

30 million Minitels will be in action throughout France both as videotex and directory data banks. They will by then have developed into small processors in their own right - capable of handling electronic payments, connecting personal computers and using printers to obtain copies of transactions.

This activity is what the French have christened telematics - the marriage of communication and computing power. For the Parisian businessman or Breton farmer today it means turning on the set, dialling 11 and receiving on the screen a luminous inquiry form. He fills this in, using his keyboard, with the name and town or area or the person he wants to contact, or with the yellow page service he needs.

He gets in response - if the area is one of those already on

shipping ports. By using infrared aerial photography, aspects of the landscape not visible to the eye can be picked up and this helps companies to pinpoint possible mineral and oil deposits.

First step is to photograph the area. Hundreds of overlapping frames are taken on rolls of film 250 feet long. Back in

Coleraine, maps are produced in digital form for storage on magnetic tape or any other digital media requested. Since most countries have their own main-line computer, the maps can be stored until required.

Oil companies have enlisted

its help in planning lengthy pipe routes from oil well locations to

mapping system in operation anywhere, enabling it to record survey map information direct from the aerial photographs or ground-supplied data in digital form and store it on disc or magnetic tape.

Other survey companies, of course, use computers at various stages of their operation, but BKS claims to be the only one to take information straight from aerial photographs and feed it into the computer for a map to be drawn. This method

claims that these are now the most advanced in the world and to back that claim the company points to its lucrative survey contracts in many parts of the world. It is equipped with the largest, fully-computerized

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*WordStar is a MicroPro International Corp. product.

People/David Broad of Comart Computers



David Broad: right from the bare boards

In among the thoroughbreds

By Roger Woolnough

David Broad made an early start in microcomputers. In the mid-1970s, the peripherals company he was with received an order from an American micro company for 1,000 printers - an almost unbelievable number in those days. It was the signal he had been waiting for, and by 1977 Broad

had set up his own company, Comart, to exploit the new opportunities.

"It was a good three years before the computer industry as a whole recognized that microcomputers were here to stay," he said.

Broad began by importing American systems, but gradu-

ally the company developed its own product. Last July it started making the Comart Communicator, and Broad now claims Comart Computers as a thoroughbred British micro-computer manufacturer.

"We manufacture right from bare boards," he says. "We don't send things to Taiwan for assembly."

The importing side has been phased out, but along the way Comart has expanded in other directions. It is in computer retailing, having acquired the Byte Shop chain, in 1980. Another acquisition, Xitan Systems, distributes microcomputer software, and there is a field service activity called Microserve.

Still only 37, David Broad has packed a lot into his career. He started with ICL, who sponsored him for an honours degree course in electronics, majoring on computers. At the same time, ICL put him through every department. "I could not have had a better start," he says.

After ICL he worked with a French minicomputer company, InterTechnique, moved to Texas Instruments, and then joined Trend Communications. The formation of Comart came next.

As though his present activities are not enough, Broad also started the British Microcomputer Manufacturers group, which brings together 17 United Kingdom manufacturers to promote the interests of home-grown products.

Despite the proliferation of

Bad news from the shop front

JOB SCENE

by Richard Sharpe

This year on hardware and software, a retail computer site has 36 development staff and 77 operations staff.

That is the biggest among the user groups, even bigger than the big computer operations run by the financial sector.

Here, perhaps, lies the answer to the Tesco redundancies.

Tesco has expanded very quickly, adopting some of the latest techniques in running a computer centre. Such levels of staff cannot always be justified when the real results of computer investment are calculated.

Tesco is unlikely to be the last big computer this year to cut into its staffing level. The very technology which in the past has helped to take away the jobs of non-data processing staff is now cutting into data processing staff levels.

A sign of this is the lowering of salary increase projections by data processing managers. One fifth of the managers in the Urwick survey believed that general salary increases this year would be below 5 per cent. In October 1983 only one in 25 managers thought increases in the coming 12 months would be as low as this.

A recent study of computer users' budgets for this year showed that the retail and distribution sector of users has the third most ambitious plans for spending this year out of nine user sectors.

The survey, conducted by the UK consultancy Urwick, showed that the average retailing and distribution computer site will spend £1,025 million.

Keeping customers happy

continued from page 17

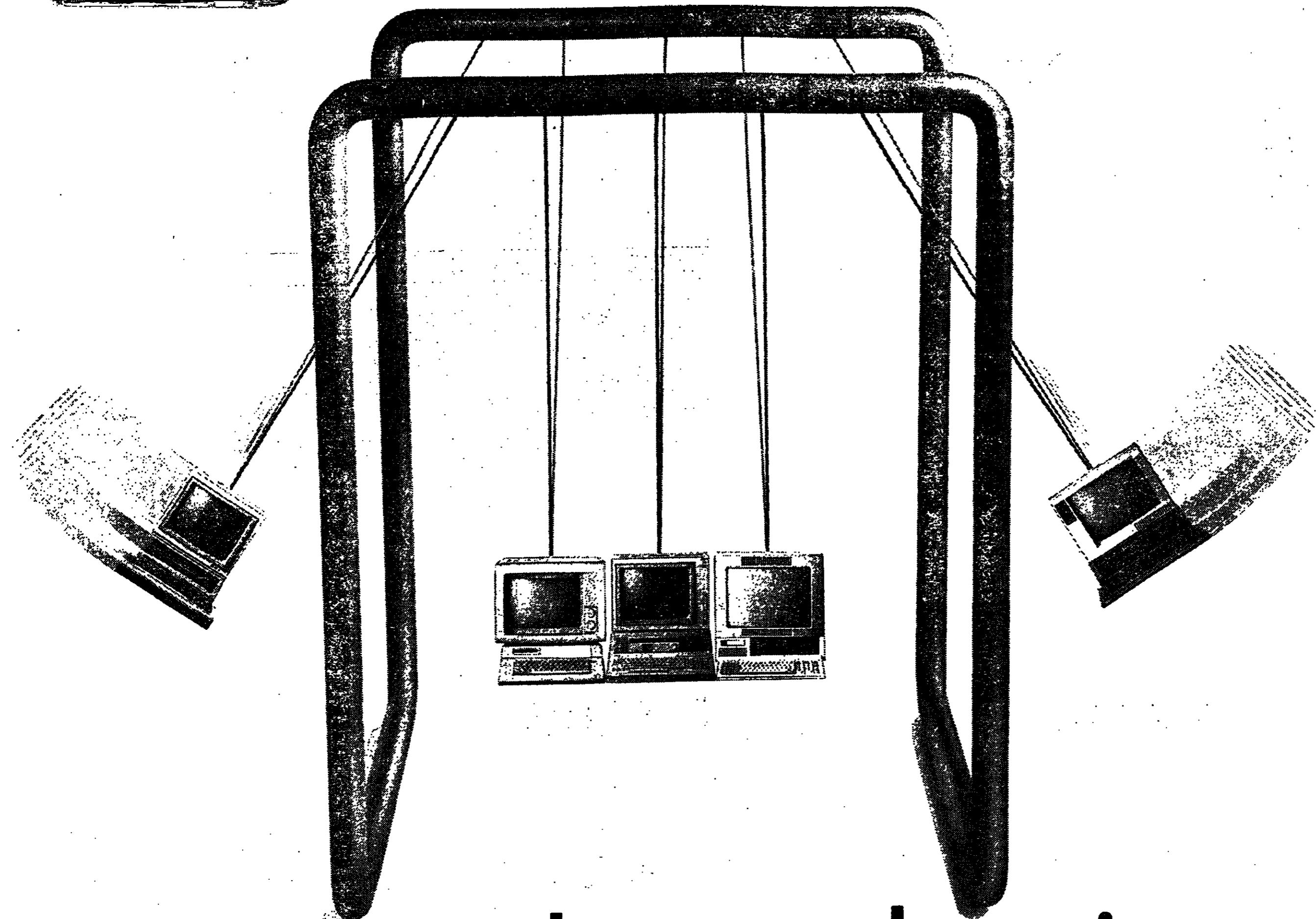
training on its micros. Hitachi is offering to carry out all its own repair work, relieving its dealers of the need to have their own engineers.

The distributors, then, plan to improve their dealers. The bug in their program is pointed out by Computer Retailers' Association spokesman John Harding: "There are too many manufacturers trying to get dealers to flog their machines for them". From his side of the fence, it is the dealer who should be wary of the distributor.

Harding notes that many manufacturers, as well as dealers, ran into financial problems last year. So, while virtually all computer makers and distributors in Britain are trying to increase their network of dealers, they are finding that there are not enough competent dealers to go round.

The well-established retailers are already signed up with the major manufacturers - IBM, Apple, ACT - and are unwilling to increase their product range.

Distributors with newer micros are being left with the "second division" of dealers, who may not match their standards.



How to make sure the micro you buy is a serious business tool and not just an executive toy.

There just isn't room in a progressive company for a computer that's going to be little more use in a few years time than an executive toy. Although most personal computers can manage everyday problems like simplifying accounts, word processing and spreadsheets, many of them simply won't be able to cope with future office developments.

Which is why the Olivetti M20 has been designed to help you take full advantage of the new office technology that is becoming available.

The M20 has inbuilt communications facilities, for example, so it can actually talk to other office machines like typewriters, turning them into intelligent word processors and printers.

By linking with a telephone and communications equipment the M20 can access Prestel, mainframe computers, receive and send telex messages and even make your telephone calls through Autodial.

And as your company grows, the M20 can grow with you. Unlike some of its rivals the M20 is a true 16 bit micro that can be upgraded, step by step, into a fully integrated network system with a massive central memory for extensive file storage, handling tasks like electronic mail and text and data processing.

And because it offers four different operating systems (MS-DOS, CP/M-86, PCOS and UCSD-P*) the M20 can give you access to all the software programs you'll ever need. Both those available on the general market as well as our own range of software.

In fact we are probably the only company in the world that can supply software, hardware and technical support from a single in-house source.

So it's not just the components inside the M20 that make it a better computer, but the company behind it. At Olivetti we've been working with small and medium size businesses for 75 years. And we've been pioneers in computer technology for over 20 years.

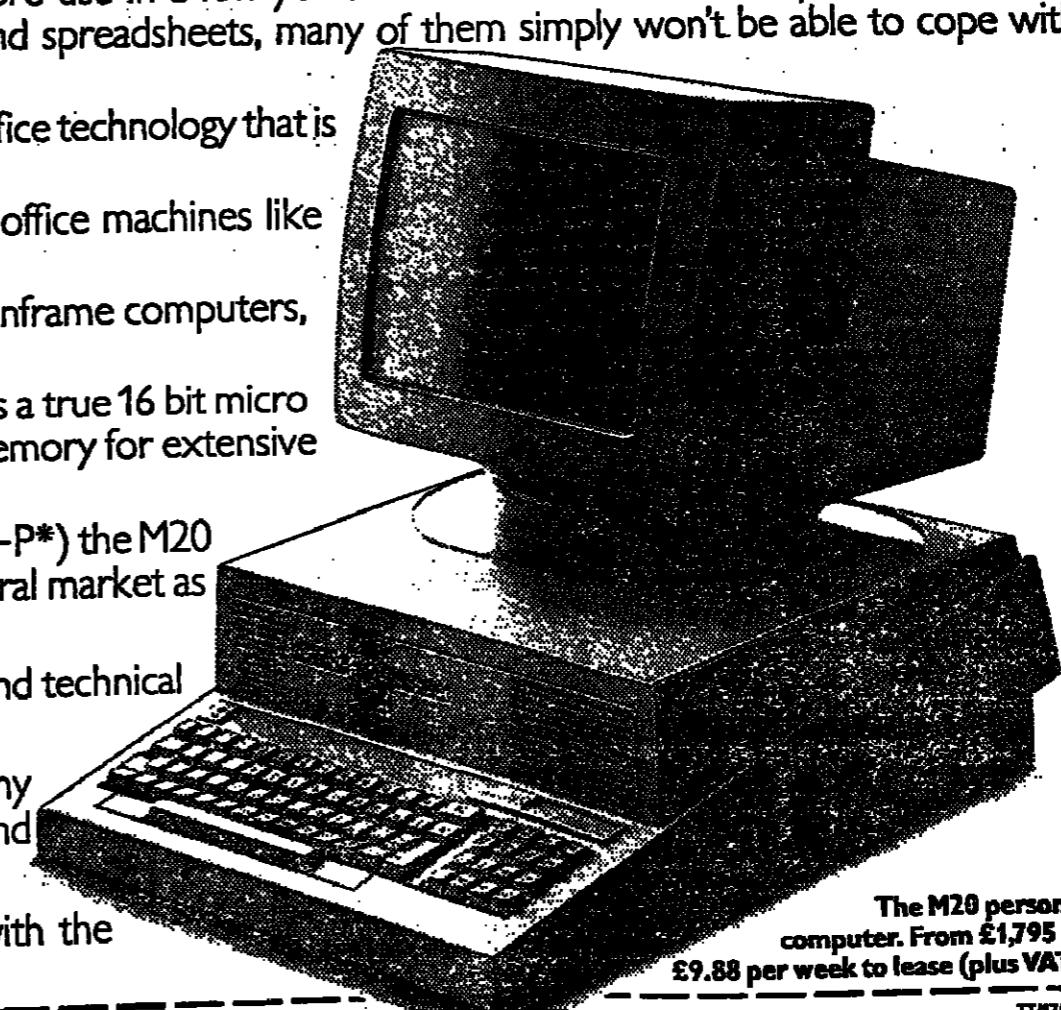
This experience has given us a greater understanding of business problems combined with the advanced technology to solve them.

The end result is the M20, a serious business tool that can help your company grow into full office productivity.

There are, of course, some other companies who promise a similarly attractive future. But unfortunately, many of these companies don't have a future themselves.

Bankruptcies among computer manufacturers are common and it's unlikely that more than a handful will survive the next few years, causing endless problems for the businesses that have invested in their machines.

As the largest European manufacturer of computer and office equipment with resources to match, we'll always be around whenever you need us. For more information, simply complete the coupon.



The M20 personal computer. From £1,795 or £9.88 per week to lease (plus VAT).

| | |
|--|--|
| To: Valerie Belfer, British Olivetti, Olivetti House, 86-88 Upper Richmond Road, Putney, London SW15 2UR. Tel: 01-785 6666. Please send me brochures on the M20 personal computer. | |
| NAME | |
| POSITION | |
| COMPANY | |
| ADDRESS | |
| TEL NO: | |

*MS-DOS is a trademark of Microsoft Inc. CP/M-86 is a trademark of Digital Research. UCSD-P system is a trademark of the Regent of the University of California.

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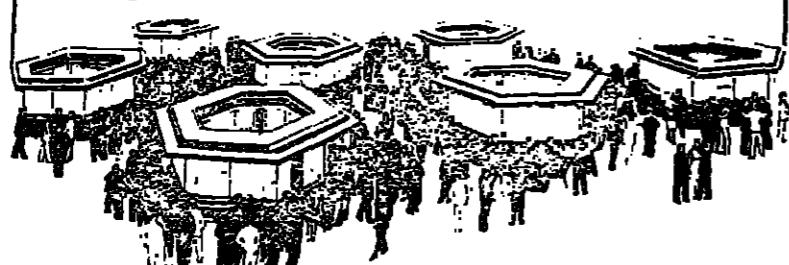
We are now looking for an experienced sales professional to manage one of these services like a business. That means preparing budgets, setting targets, planning and scheduling enhancements and managing the sales effort.

If you have experience of selling computers or computer services, of negotiating at a high level in the financial community and you also understand communication networks, then contact us immediately.

The right person will be offered an attractive salary package which reflects the importance we attach to this role, and includes a company car, non-contributory pension scheme and other benefits.

Please write with a full curriculum vitae to Mary Thom, Manager Personnel Services, The Stock Exchange, Old Broad Street, London EC2N 1HP.

The Stock Exchange



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We are one of the most progressive computer manufacturers in Europe - a highly successful organisation envied for our capability in being able to supply tried and tested systems designed to meet almost every business need that is required in the marketplace today. We have an absolute commitment to our customer support, embracing all of our present and future systems and it is considered that our achievements has established a pattern of product and service excellence unequalled in the industry today. Against this background of success, in a dynamic and very competitive environment, we now wish to strengthen and grow our operation by appointing Sales Executives to be based in London, Birmingham and West Yorkshire.

You will currently be a successful computer sales professional, operating in a commercial environment combining a high level of business acumen with the personal credibility and commitment that is necessary for these demanding yet rewarding posts. In return for your skills, we can offer an excellent income package based on very realistic achievable sales quotas, company car and superb career opportunities that one would expect from a highly successful organisation.

We are positioned on the threshold of the most exciting and certainly the most significant phase of our development - now is the time to contact us. Advising Consultant Mr Richard Champion on 021 236 1989 (24 hour answering service) or on 0562 584166 (evenings and weekends).

CIA
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Cathy Tracey & Associates Ltd

POLEHILL HOUSE
13 NEWHALL STREET
BIRMINGHAM B5 2TH
TEL: 021-236 1999 TELEX: 472564

attracts the best! ■ ■ ■ ■ ■

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Based from the Northern Home Counties this position carries a National responsibility for a sector of our client's business which is key to their overall growth and more importantly profitability. The role embraces the management of sales, technical and marketing personnel in a number of geographic locations and it is therefore vital that you have strong leadership skills. Further, you must have the intellectual capacity to formulate and drive marketing policies which calls for creative thinking and the ability to influence and implement change. The person appointed can expect to enjoy a large measure of autonomy in the overall management of the business base. You will be expected to contribute to the overall profitability associated with a key professional from within the computer industry. This position is ideally suited to a Branch Manager who is looking for the challenge of leading a team of multi-disciplined individuals in achieving realistic successes through your keen management skill and high sense of motivation. Naturally, for the calibre of individual required, a highly attractive package is available with guarantees being negotiable dependent upon experience. In the first instance contact Cathy Tracey on 021 236 1999 (24 hour answering service) or Henley-in-Arden 4273 (evenings and weekends). Alternatively, submit a Curriculum Vitae to the Birmingham Office.

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RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

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attracts the best! ■ ■ ■ ■ ■

**SYSTEMS & PROCEDURES ANALYST
(O & M SPECIALIST) DUBAI**

McDermott International are world leaders in construction services to the Petroleum Industry and are at present extensively involved in Oil Platform and Module Fabrication, upgrade our Onshore Support Group with the appointment of a self motivated professional in the key position of Systems & Procedures Analyst.

The successful candidate will be responsible for reviewing existing policies, systems improvements. Other duties will include co-ordination of interdepartmental Systems will also plan, direct and advise management on the introduction of cost reduction programmes.

We expect candidates to be qualified to BSC level in accounting, administration or industrial engineering and any specific additional qualifications in O & M would be an advantage. We would also expect candidates to have 5 to 7 years exposure to Internal Control Systems relating to cost accounting, accounts payable.

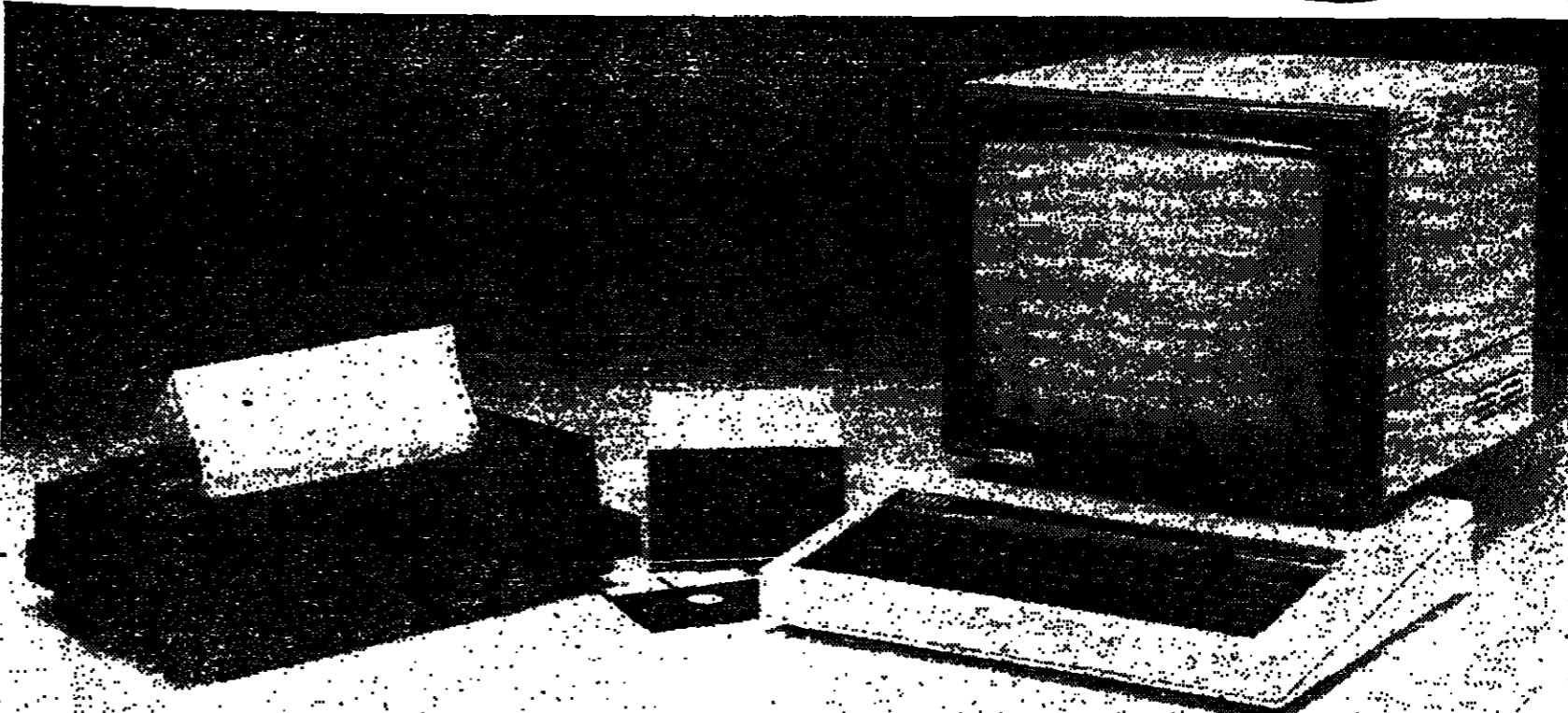
The position can be offered on either single or family status basis and carries an attractive salary, paid in U.S. dollars. Other benefits include excellent Relocation Package, Company Pension Scheme together with Medical, Class Educational, Recreational and Social amenities.

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McDERMOTT
INTERNATIONAL INC.

A computer challenge open to everyone

TEN BBC MICROCOMPUTER PRIZES



PRIZES

Today Computer Horizons launches its second national computer competition. Following the success of the schools competition, *The Times* now announces the National Microcomputer Challenge, which will be open to everyone.

The aim of the competition is to find the best original use of a microcomputer for a socially useful purpose, such as a novel computer program or an innovative use of a computer peripheral. Ideas may involve any type of project involving the use of hardware and software and any type of microcomputer.

The competition will be in two stages - regional and national. All the entrants need to do at the first stage is to submit in no more than 1,000 words a proposal describing the project and its benefits, and ensure that the entry is accompanied by twelve differently dated mastheads from the front of *The Times* - that is, the title at the top of Page One with the date below it.

Judging will take place in ten regions and the winner in each region will receive a BBC Microcomputer Model B, provided by Acorn Computers. There will be a second prize of a £50 W. H. Smith voucher for computer goods and a third prize of a £30 voucher. Closing date for entries is March 2 and winners will be announced in Computer Horizons on March 20.

The second stage will be the national final in which the ten regional winners will be asked to demonstrate their ability to put their proposals into practice, making use of a microcomputer. It is emphasised that entrants will not, for example, be expected to provide a complete professional program

or working model, but only to give some evidence of the practicability of their original idea.

The national judging and prizegiving will take place on April 18 as part of the London Computer Festival and the results published in Computer Horizons on May 1. First prize, provided by Acorn Computers, will be a full BBC Microcomputer Model B, disc storage system, and either a 14 inch colour video monitor or a "Sparkjet" printer. The second prize will be a £100 W. H. Smith voucher for goods and the third prize a £50 voucher.

You may enter as an individual or as a representative of a project group for a club, school, college or company. If you represent a group, you will be required to provide the name of the person responsible for the group. The prizes, therefore, may be won by individuals or on behalf of a group. If any winner already has a BBC microcomputer, Acorn Computers have agreed to supply any other item from the BBC microcomputer system or Acornsoft programs of a similar value.

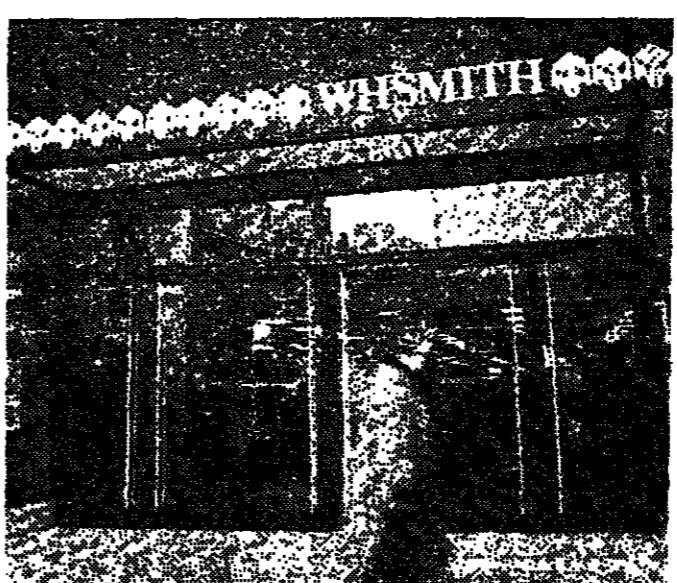
Entry forms will be appearing in subsequent Computer Horizons pages on Tuesdays. Complete details of the competition and further entry forms may be also obtained in a week or so from W. H. Smith shops selling computers and software, or in writing from the competition address:

The Times National Computer Challenge, 43 Bedford Row, London WC1R.

Watch out next week in Computer Horizons for some ideas that may give you further inspiration.

RULES

1. All entries must be accompanied by the official entry form, completed in full. No photocopies will be accepted.
2. Entrants may submit more than one entry, provided each is accompanied by the official entry form and by 12 differently dated mastheads from the front of *The Times*. No entrant may, however, qualify for more than one prize at the regional stage.
3. All entries must be made clearly in ink. Incomplete, illegible, spoilt or late entries may be rejected at the judges' discretion, as will those that exceed 1,000 words.
4. Those entrants wishing to have their entries returned to them after completion of judging must state this clearly at the time of entry and enclose a suitable stamped, addressed envelope for return.
5. Proof of posting is not acceptable as proof of entry and *The Times* accepts no responsibility for any materials lost or damaged in transit.
6. The winners of the challenge will be those entries deemed by the panels of judges in each region and nationally to have submitted the most original use of the microcomputer for a social useful purpose. The decision of the judges appointed by the Editor is final on all matters connected with the Challenge and no correspondence connected with the conduct or outcome of the challenge will be entered into.
7. Copyright in the material submitted will at all times remain vested with the entrant. Notwithstanding this, *The Times* and all others authorised by it shall be at liberty to reproduce, display, demonstrate and otherwise utilise the material in such a manner as it seems fit in connection with the competition.
8. By entering the competition the entrant and any seconder who countersigns the entry form on his behalf, agrees to indemnify *The Times* and its associated in this competition against any loss resulting from any claim made against *TNL* in respect of any infringement of copyright, or any other rights of any third party arising out of the entrant's participation.
9. The Challenge is open to all those resident in the UK. Employees and their families of Times Newspapers Ltd, its associated companies or anyone connected with the operation of this competition are NOT eligible to enter.
10. All entrants will be deemed to have agreed to abide by the rules of which all instructions given herein, or as published in *The Times* form part.



W. H. Smith: hundreds of pounds worth of vouchers for computer goods to be won

others authorised by it shall be at liberty to reproduce, display, demonstrate and otherwise utilise the material in such a manner as it seems fit in connection with the competition.

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10. All entrants will be deemed to have agreed to abide by the rules of which all instructions given herein, or as published in *The Times* form part.

REGIONAL WINNERS

1st prize - BBC Microcomputer Model B
 2nd prize - £50 W. H. Smith voucher for computer goods
 3rd prize - £30 W. H. Smith voucher for computer goods
 The Ten Regions 1, Scotland, 2, The North West and N. Ireland, 3, The North East, 4, Yorkshire and Humberside, 5, The Midlands, 6, Wales, 7, The South West, 8, Northern Home Counties, 9, Southern Home Counties, 10, Greater London

NATIONAL WINNERS

1st prize - Full BBC Microcomputer System, including BBC Microcomputer Model B, Disc Storage System and either a 14in colour Video Monitor or a "Sparkjet" Printer
 2nd prize - £100 W. H. Smith voucher for computer goods
 3rd prize - £50 W. H. Smith voucher for computer goods

THE TIMES National Microcomputer Challenge

All entries must be accompanied by 12 differently dated mastheads from the front of *The Times* and also by this form completed in full and signed where required. Entries must be despatched to arrive at the competition address below by FRIDAY, MARCH 2, 1984.

To: *The Times* National Microcomputer Challenge, 43 Bedford Row, London WC1R

FULL NAME OF ENTRANT
 Mr/Mrs/Ms

OCCUPATION
 AGE

ADDRESS

TELEPHONE Daytime Evening

Please complete this section if you are representing a club, school or other organized group, or will be helped by a sponsor in the preparation of your entry.

NAME OF ORGANIZATION

NAME OF SENIOR PERSON RESPONSIBLE (eg Club Chairman, Teacher, Director)
 Mr/Mrs/Ms

ADDRESS OF ORGANIZATION (or person responsible)

COUNTY

TELEPHONE Daytime Evening

Declaration: I hereby agree to abide by the Rules of the Times Microcomputer Challenge. I declare that the material entered is original material devised by the entrant(s) and has not been published, displayed or demonstrated elsewhere. As such it will in no way violate any copyright existing before, on or after the competition date.

SIGNATURE OF ENTRANT

DATE

SIGNATURE OF OTHER PERSON RESPONSIBLE (as named above)

DATE

Please note: If the entrant is entering as an individual and is aged under 18 at time of signature, this form must be countersigned by a parent or guardian.

Great expectations at Hanover

by Frank Brown

Computer technology and the ever-widening diversity of its applications will be more strongly featured than ever at this year's Hanover Fair (April 4-11), according to the fair's organiser, Deutsche Messe und Ausstellungen AG.

The huge office and data technology (Cebit) section, for example, has been further expanded to cater for 1,300 exhibitors, 200 more than last

year. Total net exhibition space is now more than 1.25 million square feet in five interlinked halls.

Like the rest of the fair, Cebit is a truly international event. More than one third of the companies at Cebit will come

from abroad, and a number of countries will have group stands, including Britain, Norway, Israel, Canada and the United States. In all, some 220 American companies and 65 Japanese companies will take part. Many of their products will be on show for the first time anywhere.

To take account of the

changes taking place in com-

puter technology, Cebit 84 will

additionally have sections fea-

turing videotext (viewdata) and

computer-aided engineering

(Cad/Cam/Cae). Applications

of computer technology will be

evident in the nine other

exhibitions which will be held

on the 23-hall 550-acre site at

the same time.

These will include an 1,800-

exhibitor electrical/electronics

show, claimed to be the largest of its kind in the world. This will emphasise applications of microprocessors, the use of microelectronics throughout industry.

Also being held is an R & D exhibition in which some 300

research organizations, com-

mercial as well as academic, will

take part. This is designed to

stimulate the development of

applications for new tech-

nologies, particularly in tra-

ditional industries.

Other exhibitions will collecti-

vely cover the applications of

new technologies in the de-

signed and operation of factor-

ies. These will include the

recent discoveries in material

fabrication made during the

recent space mission. The

fair will also be a mecca for

visitors interested in energy

conservation. It will be the

venue of energy '84 an inter-

USM REVIEW

THE TIMES BUSINESS NEWS

EVERY MONDAY

THE TIMES TUESDAY JANUARY 17 1984

MARKET REPORT

Index extends record

ACCOUNT DAY: Dealings began, Jan 18. Dealings end, Jan 27. Contango Day, Jan 30. Settlement Day, Feb 6.

The London stock market shrugged off Wall Street's disappointing performance over the weekend by continuing its record breaking run yesterday. The FT Index closed 5.6 up at 813.7, its highest level yet. The index has now risen 38 points so far this year.

Once again, there were few sellers to be seen, which only served to drive leading shares sharply higher. Many of the constituents of the index showed healthy gains with BICC up 10p at 285p, Blue Circle 7p to 40p, GEC 6p to 189p, GKN 10p to 193p and TI Group 8p to 174p.

In tobacco, BAT Industries continued to enjoy a gradual rerating after its recent £970m acquisition of Eagle Star. There is further evidence of growing involvement in the shares by American investors. Yesterday turnover in American depositary receipts amounted to more than 500,000 shares.

Racial Electronics slipped another 5p to 202p ahead of interim figures tomorrow. These are expected to show healthy increase in pretax profits from £47m to £60m, but the shares have been depressed

by a large line of stock that has been changing over the market for some time and which is thought to belong to one of the group's founder members.

Gills remained in a dull mood still reflecting the pros-

pective of Anglo United Investments, the open cast coalmine, is due to unveil full-year figures in Toronto today. They could make interesting reading. The shares were steady at 60p yesterday, having been as high as 90p last year. Once the figures are out of the way, the group is expected to proceed with its original intention of seeking a full London listing.

Shares of the life insurance group, London & Manchester Group, rose 10p to 488p after the Bank of Scotland, 1976 Pension Scheme announced it had bought 1.2 million shares, or about 5.2 per cent.

But Mr David Abell's Suter Electrical has sold its entire

stock for higher interest rates after last week's disappointing money supply figures.

However, early falls of up to 50p had been wiped out by the close to leave prices almost unchanged on the day.

In oils, London & Scottish Oil (Laso) stood out with a jump of 21p to 296p, after 300p, on hopes of a big find on the Tiffey field in the North Sea. Laso has an 8.5 per cent stake in block 16/7 where testing is now being carried out. The block's operator, Phillips Petroleum, was unavailable for comment, although an announcement is expected shortly.

Drilling on the block was started last year and there have been reports in the market suggesting a big find. Imperial Continental Gas, which also has an 8.5 per cent stake in the project, rose 15p to 268p.

Shares of the life insurance group, London & Manchester Group, rose 10p to 488p after the Bank of Scotland, 1976 Pension Scheme announced it had bought 1.2 million shares, or about 5.2 per cent.

But Mr David Abell's Suter Electrical has sold its entire

stock in Tilbury Group, accounting for 1 million, or 6.76 per cent of the issued equity. Shares of Tilbury rose 1p to 83p.

On the Unlisted Securities

in June. Yesterday the group revealed pretax profits of £1.17m after a better-than-expected performance from its photocopying side.

Mr Harold King, chairman of United Guarantee (Holdings), has sold 120,000 shares in the company reducing his stake to 960,000, about 17 per cent of the total. Shares of the company, which has long been tipped a takeover target, gained 1p to 43p.

Boardroom changes and some bullish comment sent shares of Minenos, the computerized relay and storage system group, 8p higher at 52p. Mr Leon Stasiakos, the president is stepping down. He remains on the board, and is to become technical director of the sister Comnet Group. A new president is being sought. Mr Peter Moody, deputy chairman, takes on full executive responsibilities.

A Minenos spokesman denied that there had been a boardroom row. "The changes are perfectly amicable", he said. Minenos, floated on the USM at 75p last April, has still to win its first big contract.

FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

THE TIMES 1000

1983/84

The World's Top Companies
Full statistical details and addresses: UK, Europe, USA, Japan, Hong Kong, Australia, Canada, Singapore, etc.
From bookshops at £17.50 or £19.00 (inc. postage & packing) from Times Books Ltd., 16 Golden Square, London, W1.

| 1983/84 | High | Low | Stock | Int. Gross | Div | Yield |
|----------------------|------|------|-------|------------|----------|-------|
| | Low | High | Stock | Chg | per cent | P/E |
| BRITISH FUNDS | | | | | | |
| 1983/84 | 95 | 95 | Exch | 124p | 100 | 1.0 |
| 1984/85 | 101 | 95 | Exch | 146 | 101 | 1.0 |
| 1985/86 | 102 | 95 | Exch | 136 | 95 | 0.6 |
| 1986/87 | 103 | 95 | Exch | 136 | 95 | 0.6 |
| 1987/88 | 104 | 95 | Exch | 136 | 95 | 0.6 |
| 1988/89 | 105 | 95 | Exch | 136 | 95 | 0.6 |
| 1989/90 | 106 | 95 | Exch | 136 | 95 | 0.6 |
| 1990/91 | 107 | 95 | Exch | 136 | 95 | 0.6 |
| 1991/92 | 108 | 95 | Exch | 136 | 95 | 0.6 |
| 1992/93 | 109 | 95 | Exch | 136 | 95 | 0.6 |
| 1993/94 | 110 | 95 | Exch | 136 | 95 | 0.6 |
| 1994/95 | 111 | 95 | Exch | 136 | 95 | 0.6 |
| 1995/96 | 112 | 95 | Exch | 136 | 95 | 0.6 |
| 1996/97 | 113 | 95 | Exch | 136 | 95 | 0.6 |
| 1997/98 | 114 | 95 | Exch | 136 | 95 | 0.6 |
| 1998/99 | 115 | 95 | Exch | 136 | 95 | 0.6 |
| 1999/2000 | 116 | 95 | Exch | 136 | 95 | 0.6 |
| 2000/2001 | 117 | 95 | Exch | 136 | 95 | 0.6 |
| 2001/2002 | 118 | 95 | Exch | 136 | 95 | 0.6 |
| 2002/2003 | 119 | 95 | Exch | 136 | 95 | 0.6 |
| 2003/2004 | 120 | 95 | Exch | 136 | 95 | 0.6 |
| 2004/2005 | 121 | 95 | Exch | 136 | 95 | 0.6 |
| 2005/2006 | 122 | 95 | Exch | 136 | 95 | 0.6 |
| 2006/2007 | 123 | 95 | Exch | 136 | 95 | 0.6 |
| 2007/2008 | 124 | 95 | Exch | 136 | 95 | 0.6 |
| 2008/2009 | 125 | 95 | Exch | 136 | 95 | 0.6 |
| 2009/2010 | 126 | 95 | Exch | 136 | 95 | 0.6 |
| 2010/2011 | 127 | 95 | Exch | 136 | 95 | 0.6 |
| 2011/2012 | 128 | 95 | Exch | 136 | 95 | 0.6 |
| 2012/2013 | 129 | 95 | Exch | 136 | 95 | 0.6 |
| 2013/2014 | 130 | 95 | Exch | 136 | 95 | 0.6 |
| 2014/2015 | 131 | 95 | Exch | 136 | 95 | 0.6 |
| 2015/2016 | 132 | 95 | Exch | 136 | 95 | 0.6 |
| 2016/2017 | 133 | 95 | Exch | 136 | 95 | 0.6 |
| 2017/2018 | 134 | 95 | Exch | 136 | 95 | 0.6 |
| 2018/2019 | 135 | 95 | Exch | 136 | 95 | 0.6 |
| 2019/2020 | 136 | 95 | Exch | 136 | 95 | 0.6 |
| 2020/2021 | 137 | 95 | Exch | 136 | 95 | 0.6 |
| 2021/2022 | 138 | 95 | Exch | 136 | 95 | 0.6 |
| 2022/2023 | 139 | 95 | Exch | 136 | 95 | 0.6 |
| 2023/2024 | 140 | 95 | Exch | 136 | 95 | 0.6 |
| 2024/2025 | 141 | 95 | Exch | 136 | 95 | 0.6 |
| 2025/2026 | 142 | 95 | Exch | 136 | 95 | 0.6 |
| 2026/2027 | 143 | 95 | Exch | 136 | 95 | 0.6 |
| 2027/2028 | 144 | 95 | Exch | 136 | 95 | 0.6 |
| 2028/2029 | 145 | 95 | Exch | 136 | 95 | 0.6 |
| 2029/2030 | 146 | 95 | Exch | 136 | 95 | 0.6 |
| 2030/2031 | 147 | 95 | Exch | 136 | 95 | 0.6 |
| 2031/2032 | 148 | 95 | Exch | 136 | 95 | 0.6 |
| 2032/2033 | 149 | 95 | Exch | 136 | 95 | 0.6 |
| 2033/2034 | 150 | 95 | Exch | 136 | 95 | 0.6 |
| 2034/2035 | 151 | 95 | Exch | 136 | 95 | 0.6 |
| 2035/2036 | 152 | 95 | Exch | 136 | 95 | 0.6 |
| 2036/2037 | 153 | 95 | Exch | 136 | 95 | 0.6 |
| 2037/2038 | 154 | 95 | Exch | 136 | 95 | 0.6 |
| 2038/2039 | 155 | 95 | Exch | 136 | 95 | 0.6 |
| 2039/2040 | 156 | 95 | Exch | 136 | 95 | 0.6 |
| 2040/2041 | 157 | 95 | Exch | 136 | 95 | 0.6 |
| 2041/2042 | 158 | 95 | Exch | 136 | 95 | 0.6 |
| 2042/2043 | 159 | 95 | Exch | 136 | 95 | 0.6 |
| 2043/2044 | 160 | 95 | Exch | 136 | 95 | 0.6 |
| 2044/2045 | 161 | 95 | Exch | 136 | 95 | 0.6 |
| 2045/2046 | 162 | 95 | Exch | 136 | 95 | 0.6 |
| 2046/2047 | 163 | 95 | Exch | 136 | 95 | 0.6 |
| 2047/2048 | 164 | 95 | Exch | 136 | 95 | 0.6 |
| 2048/2049 | 165 | 95 | Exch | 136 | 95 | 0.6 |
| 2049/2050 | 166 | 95 | Exch | 136 | 95 | 0.6 |
| 2050/2051 | 167 | 95 | Exch | 136 | 95 | 0.6 |
| 2051/2052 | 168 | 95 | Exch | 136 | 95 | 0.6 |
| 2052/2053 | 169 | 95 | Exch | 136 | 95 | 0.6 |
| 2053/2054 | 170 | 95 | Exch | 136 | 95 | 0.6 |
| 2054/2055 | 171 | 95 | Exch | 136 | 95 | 0.6 |
| 2055/2056 | 172 | 95 | Exch | 136 | 95 | 0.6 |
| 2056/2057 | 173 | 95 | Exch | 136 | 95 | 0.6 |
| 2057/2058 | 174 | 95 | Exch | 136 | 95 | 0.6 |
| 2058/2059 | 175 | 95 | Exch | 136 | 95 | 0.6 |
| 2059/2060 | 176 | 95 | Exch | 136 | 95 | 0.6 |
| 2060/2061 | 177 | 95 | Exch | 136 | 95 | 0.6 |
| 2061/2062 | 178 | 95 | Exch | 136 | 95 | 0.6 |
| 2062/2063 | 179 | 95 | Exch | 136 | 95 | 0.6 |
| 2063/2064 | 180 | 95 | Exch | 136 | 95 | 0.6 |
| 2064/2065 | 181 | 95 | Exch | 1 | | |

Hillsborough get-together may settle who drinks champagne from Milk Cup

By Stuart Jones Football Correspondent

Hillsborough is to stage a summit meeting tonight. Not only are Sheffield Wednesday, the leaders of the second division, taking on Liverpool, the leaders of the first, but theirs is by far the most influential of the four Milk Cup quarter-finalists. Whatever the outcome, the balance of the rest of the competition is sure to be substantially altered.

If Liverpool avoid defeat, they will become even stronger favourites to retain the trophy for the fourth successive year. None of the other survivors would be expected to hold them over two legs in the semi-final, let alone at Wembley, where they have conquered West Ham United, after a replay, Tottenham Hotspur and Manchester United in the last three finals.

If Wednesday triumph they will open the gates to a field full of possibilities and even expose the roots. In the early days of the League Cup, as it was then known, third division clubs were notably successful. They are again. The present remnants include Rotherham, who reached the final in 1961, and the current leaders, Walsall and Oxford United.

The first names to be inscribed on the Cup were

Aston Villa and Norwich City. They met again at Carrow Road tonight and the winner could be the first division's lone representative in the last four. Norwich have already gained a psychological advantage by beating Villa 3-0 in the FA Cup last week and may be strengthened by the return of Deehan.

Tony Barton, Villa's manager, has reason to fear another defeat. Doug Ellis, the chairman, said yesterday: "This club will not accept consistent failure. Tony Barton and his assistant, Roy McLaren, must realize this. The single most important thing is the tie against Norwich. It is my job to see that everyone here is in the right mood to succeed."

Liverpool, unchanged as usual, have only to decide whether Hodgson or Whelan is their substitute. Rush, who was shaken rather than hurt in a car crash at the weekend, was yesterday passed fit and his presence could be crucial. The absence of Dalglish may be even more so.

Without their most vital attacking inspiration, Liverpool last Saturday failed to breach a Wolverhampton Wanderers defence that had been broken 50 appearances for the club.

Testimonial for Neal

Liverpool have granted a testimonial to their England full back, Phil Neal, who joined them from Northampton 10 years ago.

Neal, who recently signed a two-year contract, has made nearly 550 appearances for the club.

North American league faced with loss of cornerstone

WORLD FOOTBALL

Brian Glanville

Will Italy not, after all, get the 1990 World Cup? After the recent visit to the Soviet Union made by Jozef Havelange, president of FIFA, the candidature of Russia is bulking large. England are still in the running, but Dario Borgogno, secretary of the Italian FA, and a vice-president of FIFA, admits that the death of Antonio Franchi, Italian president of FIFA, has been a blow to Italy's hopes.

"One thing is certain," Borgogno says, "With Franchi dead, vice versa, everything is possible" – including, presumably, another World Cup for England. The decision is expected in May.

Borgogno says that FIFA have been thoroughly shaken by the outcry over the arbitrary way the 1986 World Cup had been awarded to Mexico, without even going through the normal motion to exclude the United States and Canadian clubs.

Talking of the United States, the climbing edifice of the North American Soccer League must now be in serious danger of losing its very cornerstone, the Cosmos. If the present management of Warner Communications loses its battle to keep control of the company, it seems deeply doubtful whether the new owners would want to maintain the expensive luxury of the New York Cosmos, whose crowds at the immensely successful Giants Stadium in Rutherford, New Jersey, fell steeply last season and who failed even to reach the final of the championship, the Soccer Bowl.

So long as Steve Ross was head of Warner Communications, and Craig Chingalia was playing for them, Cosmos were very safe. Ross knows little about football but became a close friend of Chingalia when the Italian international centre forward left Lazio to play for Cosmos. The Turkish Erengun brothers know a great deal about football and still like to talk about the famous match between England and the Austrian Wunderteam of

1932. But the money poured out on such stars as Chingalia, Beckenbauer (who thereby missed the 1978 World Cup), Neeskens, Tostao, Carlos Alberto and Bogicic has never been fully recovered.

Chingalia, when leading the Cosmos attack, actually had his own office in the Warner Communications building. Without him, the team would lose much of their allure.

Chingalia is finding life with Lazio, in Rome, a great deal less benign than life with the Cosmos, although he has denied suggestions that he might be desperate to return to the field of play. He will go on being the cornerstone of Lazio, he promises, even if the team goes down to Serie B (second division), which seems more and more likely.

Diego Maradona, at least, is back again with Barcelona, although he must have mixed feelings about the game they play on January 29, against Athletic Bilbao, in their San Mamés stadium. It is one which may do much to decide who wins the championship, but for Maradona it has the added hazard that he must face the dreaded Goicoechea, the man whose savage tackle put him out of the game for so many months.

Last week's death of an old friend, Fulvio Bernardini, at the age of 78, evoked many memories. As a player, Bernardini, a Roman with a law degree from the local university, 1976 will attract a capacity 3,600 crowd to Fratton Park on January 28.

Hundreds of Portsmouth supporters defied driving rain to queue overnight and the club's quota of 2,000 tickets were quickly sold.

Their loss also brought a heavy demand for Southampton's allocation of 9,000 and they expect to have sold them all by tomorrow.

Phil Kite, the Bristol Rovers goalkeeper, has joined Tottenham on a month's loan. Aged 21, he has

played more than 100 first-team games but recently lost his first-

team place to Ray Cashley. With

Jimmy Hargreaves, Torquay United's youth development officer, has been appointed caretaker manager of the fourth division club, Bruce Rioch having resigned at the weekend. The former Scottish international quit the Professional Football Association when Dell was waterlogged, has been rearranged for next Monday, January 23 (7.30).

The Torquay chairman, Tony Boyce, denied that the incident was the cause of Rioch's resignation.

"The decision he made has been in the offing for some time. Bruce has been very frustrated over many things," Mr Boyce said.

The Football League said that

they will be holding a commission of inquiry into the postponement of the Burnley v Hull City third division match last Saturday. The commission will sit on Monday, January 30, in Manchester. The Hull coach was delayed by bad weather on the way to Turf Moor.

Tickets for the FA Cup fourth-round tie between Portsmouth and Southampton were all sold within hours of going on sale yesterday. The first competitive match between the South coast clubs since

1976 will attract a capacity 3,600 crowd to Fratton Park on January 28.

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Coe senior hits back at the critics of his coaching methods

By David Miller

The relationship between Sebastian Coe and his father, who coaches him in what has been an exceptional career, has always been a matter of speculation, and occasionally controversy. This was so in that week of conflicting failure and success in the Moscow Olympics.

It was so again last summer. The seeming martinet in Peter Coe is sometimes more apparent publicly than his endless devotion to a unique athlete which can be observed in private. Son has learned better than father how to leach the bounds of print and video. When the hero fails, it is an easy option to vest the failure upon the less demure of the two men.

One of the worst aspects of Sebastian Coe's illness, which forced him out of the World Championships last summer, was the open cynicism among certain sections of the sport, coaches and athletes, as well as among the media: he had broken down, it was alleged, because Peter Coe had miscalculated the training.

Such gossip, prevalent in Helsinki among even internationals, was more painful than the wilder accusations of drugs. Never had the relationship been more vulnerable to speculation ignorant of the rare blood disease which had ended his hopes.

Peter Coe, admitting that he may have inflamed that speculation by an over-protective reaction to press questioning,

has for the first time explained the dilemma which confronted him throughout the summer build-up. The suggestion that the Seb was over-trained was in fact the reverse of the truth, Peter says.

"None of the innuendos which were going around reached me at the time. All I was aware of was that, even allowing for normal variation, there were things which Seb couldn't manage in training, things he normally can do. But the severity of the disease was masked by his own determination to keep pressing on."

Seb, who resents the allegation that his father was somehow responsible, points out that the volume and content of the training was less than at any time in the previous four years; yet because of his medical condition, of which there was nominal awareness, the more training he did the worse his physical condition was likely to become. Peter explains:

"The normal progress in training is that you increase the levels once the athlete can comfortably repeat the phase you are in, within only a short time, a day or two. Whether it is stamina or speed you are going for, the best sign is that the level is repeatable. But last year there was consistently no sign of this, and as coach it was therefore very confusing. Seb would run a 400 one day, and then be unable to manage a 300 at the same level a day or so later."

"There were two ways of



Coe and Coe: a martinet image conceals the bond between athlete and coach

looking at this situation: what could be got out of him with much less training, how much might his own remarkable capacity to produce speed on little preparation rescue something as it had done in Athens the year before. I knew that no one else in his condition could ever hope to get through event heats.

The obvious question, therefore, must be why the coach, knowing something was wrong, allowed the athlete to continue. It is the answer to that which demonstrates, not the alleged rift, between father and son, but the bond. Peter says:

"It is a fundamental premise

of coaching that you can only work by consent, by the athlete's agreement to do what you ask. You have to have that.

But the ultimate decision to go for something has to be the athlete's. Seb was determined to run in the World Championships. Therefore I was obliged to do whatever I could to make that possible to minimize his problems. He will have my loyalty as long as he wants it.

"Even when he ran 1min 43.8sec in Oslo I wasn't happy, yet I cannot pretend to greater knowledge that I has at the time. Fortunately, the faith between us is such that it is now possible for us to joke about last

summer, the realisation that it was doomed to failure."

Peter now finds that Sebastian is bungrier than he has been for a long while, that neither of them lack confidence for the huge task ahead. He says that he has already has to slow Seb down because his natural talent is carrying him ahead too fast.

"The mistake I made last year towards the end was to be too protective when Seb was under pressure from the media as the defeats started to come. I could see that pressure becoming another nail in the coffin."

Tomorrow, Sebastian Coe discusses his comeback.

TENNIS: THE FALL OF A TITANESS AND THE RISE OF BRITISH HOPES

Navratilova is checked at last

Oakland (Reuters) — Martina Navratilova's 5-4 match winning streak by beating the world's top-ranked player 7-6, 3-6, 6-4 in the final of a \$15,000 tournament. The seventh-seeded Czechoslovak thrashed her fist high in the air after her stirring victory, then buried her head in a towel at courtside.

Miss Navratilova's winning streak was just two short of Chris Evert's 1974 mark of 56 straight wins. "I went down fighting," Miss Navratilova said of the two-hour match, which featured spectacular play by both players. "I didn't lose it. She won it. Now I'm trying to get used to the feeling of losing."

Miss Navratilova earned \$30,000

and Miss Navratilova \$15,000. The victory was particularly sweet for Miss Navratilova, who, after two years without winning a final, has captured two tournament titles in as many weeks.

A controversial "out" call on a Miss Navratilova volley in the ninth game of the first set gave Miss Navratilova a crucial 30-15 lead and appeared to upset the Czechoslovakian. With the aid of running-busting forehands, Miss Navratilova turned the advantage into the lead in the next set, which she won 6-3.

However, Miss Navratilova quickly recovered in the third set and in the fourth game she came back from 0-40 on her service and held for the rest of the game. "People were beginning to think that she couldn't be beaten but she's human. We've always had close matches," Miss Navratilova said.

There were two ways of

losses dating back to 1981.

In the first set Miss Navratilova showed a determination and composure that rallied the crowd behind her. She fought off three consecutive set points in the tie-break and reeled off five points in a row to take the tie-break 6-4.

The quality of shot-making was high in the opening set, despite inconsistent serving on both sides.

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Tupperware distributors liable for VAT on retail price

P & R Potter v Commissioners of Customs and Excise
Before Mr Justice Woolf
(Judgment delivered January 13)

Distributors of Tupperware were liable to account for value-added tax on the basis that they sold Tupperware to members of the public attending parties organized for selling Tupperware at the full recommended retail price through the medium and agency of their dealers. Mr Justice Woolf held in the Queen's Bench Division dismissing an appeal against a decision of the VAT Tribunal.

Mr Ian McCulloch for the appellants; Mr Simon D. Brown for the commissioners.

MR JUSTICE WOOLF said that Tupperware was manufactured by a company associated with Dart Industries, which had no established arrangement for the distribution and sale of Tupperware on a parts-plan system.

Dart appointed a number of

authorized wholesalers of Tupperware, known as distributors. The appellants were one of the distributors. Distributors purchased Tupperware from Dart at wholesale prices. Each distributor appointed dealers who arranged for friends to act as hostesses and to organize parties where Tupperware was displayed and persons attending were encouraged to purchase Tupperware.

Having obtained orders, the dealer submitted an order to his distributor. The dealer paid to the distributor 70 per cent of the recommended retail price and retained the balance of the price paid by the purchaser as his commission.

The appellants contended that the dealers purchased Tupperware from the appellants and resold it to the people who placed orders at parties. On that view, VAT would be payable on the price paid by the dealer, which is 70 per cent of the retail price, because there would be a supply of goods by the distributors to the dealers and the value of that

supply would be 70 per cent of the retail price.

The commissioners contended that there was a sale by the appellants to the members of the public attending the parties and therefore VAT should be payable in respect of the full retail price by the appellants.

The tribunal accepted the commissioners' approach. Having regard to *Martin v Glyncod Distribution Ltd* (1983) ICR 511 which accurately reflected the role of the court, it was quite impossible for the court to intervene where the tribunal did not misdirect itself and had posed the right questions and did not come to a wholly unreasonable decision.

Since it could not be said that the tribunal had misdirected itself or had come to an unreasonable decision, the appeal must be dismissed.

Solicitors: David Rimmer & Co for Shetona, Wolverhampton, Solicitor, Customs and Excise.

Deterrent sentences appropriate for football hooligans

Regina v Wood (Leslie Alan)
The Court of Appeal (Criminal Division) (Lord Justice Lawton, Mr Justice Drake and Mr Justice Hobhouse) gave guidance on January 12 as to the appropriate sentences in cases involving violence at or near football grounds.

The court allowed an appeal by Mr Leslie Alan Wood against his sentence for assault with intent to cause serious harm, which was a 12 month youth custody for six months' youth custody for one football racing.

LORD JUSTICE LAWTON said that the continuing prevalence of violent offences at or near football grounds indicated that the practice of imposing fines or limited restrictions on liberty for such

offences and not imposing custodial sentences unless serious injury was caused had not had a deterrent effect on those who had a propensity to use violence.

The time had come for the courts to impose sentences to deter those minded to use violence at or near football matches. Unless there were exceptional mitigating circumstances, youths between 17 and 21 should receive a custodial sentence upon conviction of an offence involving violence to police or others trying to maintain order at or near a football match or to spectators not involved in the violence.

A short detention centre order would usually be adequate, but if a weapon had been used, or a disabling injury caused, or if there was evidence that the defendant was addicted to using violence a youth custody order would be appropriate.

A longish sentence would be necessary if the injury amounted to grievous bodily harm.

In the case of youths under 17, juvenile courts should consider the need to deter the disorderly young as well as to the disorderly young.

It might be inappropriate to apply those guidelines to disorderly youths who had done violence to spectators, because much would depend in each case upon what had happened and why. There might have been provocation or over-reaction going beyond lawful self-defence. In general, however, there would need to be a deterrent element in all sentences.

Confining proceedings by injunction

Smith Kline and French Laboratories Ltd and Another v Block

Where an injunction had properly been granted by the High Court to restrain a party from bringing proceedings in respect of a particular cause of action in any other jurisdiction, it would be a gross interference with the proceedings of courts of the United States to vary that injunction to allow proceedings to be brought in the United States upon the giving of undertakings to the High Court as to the form and contents of such proceedings.

Mr Justice Drake so stated in the Queen's Bench Division on January 11, dismissing an application by the defendant for *inter alia*, the

variation of an injunction restraining him from bringing proceedings against the plaintiff outside England and Wales in respect of an alleged breach of a licensing agreement made between the first plaintiff and the defendant.

Possession of drugs

Regina v Watts (Nigel Blair)
of Schedule 2 to the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971 in addition to amphetamine.

The Court of Appeal (Criminal Division) (Lord Justice Purchas, Mr Justice Kilner Brown and Mr Justice Russell) so held on January 12, dismissing an appeal by Mr Nigel Blair Watts against his conviction for possessing a controlled drug, namely amphetamine, with intent to supply, contrary to section 5(3) of the 1971 Act.

It was sufficient in order to prove the possession of amphetamine to prove that the defendant had been in possession of amphetamine in any of its stereoisomeric forms and not just the one form. It was necessary to prove that the substance possessed contained both l- and d-amphetamine and dexamphetamine. That was so despite the fact that dexamphetamine was separately listed in Part II

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Edited by Peter Dear

BBC 1

7.30 a.m.

6.00 Cefax AM.
6.30 Breakfast Time with Frank Bough and Selina Scott. News from Fern Britton at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30 with headlines on the quarter hours; sport at 6.40 and 8.40; regional news, weather and traffic at 6.45, 7.15, 7.45 and 8.15; the day's television previewed at 6.55; the morning papers reviewed at 7.16 and 8.18; horoscopes at 8.35; Star Tips from Diana Moran, food and cooking with Glynn Christian and Jason Mitchell's money matters all between 8.30 and 9.05.

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Rachel Kempson: as Lady Manners, Jewel in the Crown (ITV 9.00pm)

ITV LONDON

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Chinese unveil Hongkong plans

By Rodney Cowton
Defence Correspondent

China's plans for Hongkong when the British lease expires in 1997 have been revealed in greater detail than ever before. They would guarantee the maintenance of the present social and economic system for 50 years, and officials would be drawn from the present resident population.

The details were revealed yesterday by the semi-official China News Service in Peking. It coincided with a two-hour meeting in London between Mrs Margaret Thatcher and a team from Hongkong led by Sir Edward Youde, the Governor. The next round of negotiations with China on the future of Hongkong is due to be held on January 25 and 26.

It is believed by well-informed sources that Whitehall has effectively abandoned any hope of negotiating an extension of British sovereignty beyond 1997.

Such an assessment of the position would be received with hostility by most of those who speak for Hongkong. In view of the fact that the official statement after yesterday's Downing Street meeting referred to "a close identity of views" being reached, it is unclear how fully the Prime Minister disclosed her hand.

The central feature of the Chinese plans is that Hongkong would be declared a Special Administrative Region.

Peking would take over the defence and foreign policy of the territory but Hongkong would retain the power to sign agreements with other countries on economic and cultural matters.

It would retain financial autonomy and continue to form its own economic policies. Its foreign exchange, stock and gold markets would continue to operate and the Hongkong dollar would remain freely exchangeable. The economic interests of Britain and other countries would be guaranteed by law.

Zhao tour page 6

Janet Ball: baby

Miss Janet Ball, aged 24, who claimed that Mr Gerald Birmingham, Labour MP for St Helens South, had been her lover, gave birth to a baby boy yesterday, her solicitor, Mr Rex Makin, said last night.



Shakespeare in suburbia: The drawing room at Sydenham with figures and a clock commemorating the Bard. (Photographs: Tony Weaver)

Plush home for actors' museum

A terrace house in Venner Road, Sydenham, south-east London has resembled a shrine to the theatrical profession for 45 years, every room crammed with programmes, paintings, first night reviews and other memorabilia.

Mr Joe Mitchenson and Mr Raymond Mander, both actors, accumulated the collection.

Viewing has always been by appointment with the two actors but soon the collection will be permanently displayed at Beckenham Place Park mansion, set in parkland owned by Lewisham Council.

Mr Mander died last year but Mr Mitchenson will live in the mansion helping to supervise his museum.



Mr Mitchenson and his collection's new home

Boys' leader criticized after rescue search

Continued from page 1

survival gear. The logic of what they did, or rather the lack of it, must be perfectly obvious".

The criticism of the public schoolmaster was echoed in part by Mr Allan Stewart, an Under Secretary of State at the Scottish Office.

"I was surprised that the youngsters and their teacher took such risks. The weathermen forecast continuing bad weather and it is obviously not a suitable time to be on the hills", he said.

Mr Cairncross, who has regularly led school climbing parties, rejected criticism that he should have returned to Glenmore to say a search was not necessary.

"I was not going to do that under any circumstances. My

responsibility was to my boys. I was aware there was a lot of people out looking for us. I am sure they were very well equipped and very experienced. There was only one leader with these boys and I was it", he said.

Mr Richard Roberts, aged 52, headmaster of the 520-pupil King Edward's School defended the actions of Mr Cairncross and said that similar trips would continue in the future under his leadership. "I am fully satisfied Mr Cairncross is properly qualified for this".

The boys, suffering from nothing more than "certain tiredness", are: Peter Goultoun, Andrew Roberts, Nicholas Woodward, all aged 17, James Bray, James Kingrie, both 16, and Martin Rudd, aged 15.

The economic task facing President Alfonsin is formidable. It could break him. Some people are pessimistic, some just wary of hoping for too much.

But in Argentina's curious mixture of moods at the moment, there are also great expectations and some exuberance. After the long winter of soldiers' rule, shops, sport signs saying "Welcome Democracy". Crowds in the streets enjoy the novelty of pavement theatre, musicians playing haunting Andean music and lively argument in Speaker's Corner fashion.

There is an almost self-conscious unbuttoning after the repression and censorship of military rule. A cabaret revue, with exquisitely-costumed girls and political comment, styles itself *Opera Democratica*. Artists and writers are encouraged by the President to start a cultural renaissance.

The Roman Catholic Church frowns at the new taboo-breaking discussion of divorce and abortion, evidence of change in a society whose family life is traditionally strict, and where girls live at home until they marry

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Trevor Fishlock

Today's events

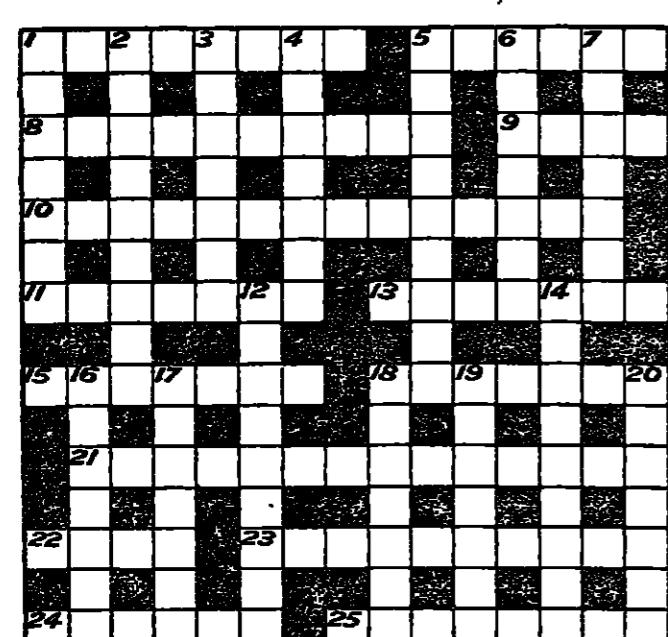
New exhibitions

New Scottish Prints, Glasgow Art Gallery and Museum, Kelvingrove, Glasgow; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2 to 5 (ends Feb 19).

Music

Organ recital by Michael Harris, Leeds Town Hall, 1.05. Concert with Michael Plasson and Stimus Ashkenasi, Cheltenham Town Hall, 7.30.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No. 16,337



Organ recital by Andrew Shaw, St Anne's Church, Manchester, 12.45.

Talks, Lectures

Urban Archaeology in Europe, by Dr Henry Cleere, Usher Gallery, Lincoln, 7.30.

Exhibitions in progress

Ten 20th Century Houses, a touring exhibition from the Arts Council of Great Britain with interesting modern designs; also a small display to mark the 150th anniversary of the Royal Institute of British Architects, Guildford House.

David Garland, paintings; Karin Hessenberg, prints; Michael Cech, mirrors; Kathryn Ross, car and teapots; Oxford Gallery, 23 High Street, Oxford; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, closed Sun (ends Feb 1).

Flesh and Stone, City Museum and Art Gallery, Broad Street, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent; Mon-Sat 10.30 to 5, Wed to 8, closed Sun and Mon (ends Feb 4).

Scotland's Art; an exhibition of over 2000 paintings, prints, sculptures and photographs, Collins Gallery, Richmond Street, Glasgow; Mon-Fri 10 to 5, Sat 12 to 4 (ends Jan 31).

Paul Hogan, paintings; Karin Hessenberg, prints; Michael Cech, mirrors; Kathryn Ross, car and teapots; Oxford Gallery, 23 High Street, Oxford; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, closed Sun (ends Feb 1).

The Body Electric, an exhibition of ballet and dance photography from 1859 to the present day, Impressions Gallery of Photography, 17 Collegate, York; Tues to Thurs 10.30 to 4, Sat 10 to 6 closed Sun and Mon (ends Feb 1).

David Garland, paintings; Karin Hessenberg, prints; Michael Cech, mirrors; Kathryn Ross, car and teapots; Oxford Gallery, 23 High Street, Oxford; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, closed Sun (ends Feb 1).

Yardley, 100th Anniversary of the Firm, 1883-1983, 100th Anniversary of the Royal Institute of British Architects, Guildford House.

George and Anne Show, 71.00. George and The Dragon, 64.00. Sunday Night at the Movies, 54.00. Christmas Superstore, 49.00. A Day in The Garden, 49.00.

Information supplied by AA Broadcasters' Audience Research Board.

TV top ten

National top ten television programmes for the week ending Jan 1, 1984.

ITV 1 Coronation Street, (Wed), Granada, 13.00.

ITV 2 Spy Who Loved Me, Thames, 11.30.

ITV 3 Punchline, LWT, 11.05.

ITV 4 Family Fortunes, Central, 11.25.

ITV 5 The Last of the Summer Wine, 11.45.

ITV 6 Name That Tune, Thames, 11.40m.

ITV 7 Crossroads, (Thur), Central, 11.40m.

ITV 8 Eric and Ernie's Xmas Show, Thames, 11.45.

ITV 9 Jim Davidson Special, Thames, 11.10m.

ITV 10 3-2-1, Yorkshire, 10.55m.

BBC 1 Last of the Summer Wine, 14.20m.

BBC 2 Dallas, 12.35m.

BBC 3 Hooper, 12.05m.

BBC 4 The Inbetweeners, 11.05m.

BBC 5 East Of The Sun, 11.05m.

BBC 6 It's A Christmas Knockout, 10.50m.

BBC 7 The Last of the Summer Wine, 11.45m.

BBC 8 Warlords Of Atlantis, 9.35m.

BBC 9 Top Of The Pops 1983, 9.00m.

BBC 10 BBC 1 News, 10.00m.

BBC 11 BBC 1 News, 10.30m.

BBC 12 The Inbetweeners, 10.30m.

BBC 13 The Inbetweeners, 10.30m.

BBC 14 The Inbetweeners, 10.30m.

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BBC 50 The Inbetweeners, 10.30m.

BBC 51 The Inbetweeners, 10.30m.

BBC 52 The Inbetweeners, 10.3